

AUSTIN'S DEVOTIONS



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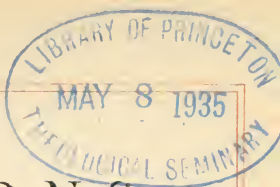




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# DEVOTIONS

IN THE ANCIENT WAY OF

## OFFICES;

WITH

*Psalms, Hymns, and Prayers,*

FOR EVERY DAY IN THE WEEK, AND EVERY HOLY DAY IN  
THE YEAR.

EDITED BY A LAYMAN,

*FROM THE ORIGINAL OF JOHN AUSTIN.*

*With a Preface*

BY RICHARD FREDERICK LITTLEDALE,

LL.D., D.C.L.

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LONDON:  
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1869.



## THE PRECEPTS OF THE CHURCH.

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1. To observe the Festivals and Holy Days appointed.
2. To keep the Fasting-days with devotion and abstinence.
3. To observe the ecclesiastical customs and ceremonies established, and that without frowardness or contradiction.
4. To repair unto the public Service of the Church for Matins and Evensong, with other holy Offices, at times appointed, unless there be a just and an unfeigned cause to the contrary.
5. To receive the Blessed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ with frequent devotion, and three times a year at least, of which times Easter to be always one ; and for better preparation thereunto, as occasion is, to disburden and quit our consciences of those sins that may grieve us, or scruples that may trouble us, to a learned and discreet Priest, and from him to receive advice and the benefit of absolution.

BISHOP COSIN, *of Durham*, 1661.

ERRATA.

Page 146, *for* Ascolmto *read* Ascolata.  
,, 150, *for* Vatican *read* Vaticano.

## P R E F A C E.

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THE volume of Devotions here presented in a new edition is one which has enjoyed a considerable and well-merited share of popularity ever since its first appearance in the seventeenth century. Its author, John Austin, an alumnus of S. John's College, Cambridge, and afterwards a barrister, was one of the small but influential knot of converts to the Roman Church who left the Anglican Communion during the troubles under Charles I. ; and his secession, in 1640, anticipated by only a very short time the temporary overthrow of the polity in which he had been reared. The book of Prayers and Meditations which he compiled was, however, marked by so much genuine piety, and such a loving spirit, that it had the rare fortune of becoming a favourite in the Communion which he had left, as well as in that he had joined ; and it also stands nearly at the head of those "adaptations" from Roman sources which have for centuries contributed to the spiritual nutriment of devout members of the English Church. Two nearly contemporary revisions of the work for Anglican use were made soon after the author's death in 1669 ; one, that which is the better known and the most frequently printed, having been made by a lady named Susannah Hopton, and edited with a preface by the well-known Dr George Hickes, Dean of Worcester, afterwards titular

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Bishop of Thetford in the Nonjuring succession. In this preface there is much of considerable interest, not only in its careful explanation of the *rationale* of the liturgical scheme of the work, but in its vindication of that view of the relations between the Churches of England and Rome which is now upheld by the Reunion school amongst us. And further, we learn that Susannah Hopton, the real editor, had been herself a convert to the Roman Church, but returned to the Church of England, bringing back with her, however, many things which she had learned, and which she desired to see made familiar to others, that they might profit by them as she had done. Amongst them was this book of Austin's, which, as recalling in a great degree the structure of those ancient Offices which have regulated the devotions of the Latin Church for more than a thousand years, and as more fervid and various than Bishop Cosin's once popular compilation, at once took a high place. Not that she was by any means the first to make Austin known. The four unadapted editions of his work had already had a considerable circulation amongst the Anglicans of the time; and a revision by Theophilus Dorrington, Rector of Wittresham, in Kent, had been five times printed before Susannah Hopton's adaptation appeared, but with less regard to the ritual arrangement of the book. The superiority of her edition secured its acceptance at once, and though it had to contend with several anonymous compilations which had borrowed freely from Austin, it held its ground during the whole eighteenth century. But after the fourth edition of it in 1712, subsequent issues were tampered with, rather from



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carelessness than design, until the actual text as issued by Dr. Hickes was restored in an edition printed at Edinburgh in 1765 and again in 1789, which was finally reproduced so lately as 1846.

So much for the past influence of a book which more nearly replaced the Primer of Sarum for the devout laity of the last century than any other compilation that has appeared since the compulsory disuse of that work; and there seems no reason to suppose that its power for good is yet exhausted. Owing, however, to the great stride which has been made in the full setting-forth and acceptance of Catholic verities amongst us of late years, there is now much less need of varying from Austin's original text than could have been the case when the book was first adapted for Anglican use. The presence of the Offices for the Blessed Virgin and for the Faithful Departed, now so natural to us, would have almost certainly ensured the total rejection of the remainder in an age which could barely receive the milk of babes. Now, happily, it is so completely otherwise, that a Book of Offices which omitted to provide for these Commemorations would have but slender prospects of success; and it is thus not merely feasible, but necessary, to revert to the earlier form of the work. One change only of importance has been made. Austin's imitations of the Breviary Hymns, as well as the original pieces he substituted for them, though always devout, are too frequently rugged, bald, and unmusical; and it has been thought no departure from the spirit of his scheme to substitute for them the happier versions in which our gene-

ration has been accustomed to sing them, versions which he would doubtless have gladly employed instead of his own less successful efforts. To have retained these latter would, no doubt, have added to the interest of the book as a mere antiquarian reprint, but with prejudice to its utility as an manual of devotion, the sole character in which it now appears again. It has never quite lost its charm, and old copies of the various adaptations of it, scattered far and wide, still assist the meditations and prayers of devout souls in many places; so that it may well be that, even amidst the variety and abundance of cognate works which pour incessantly from the press, John Austin's pious volume may meet, more completely than any other, the special needs of not a few seekers after holiness of life.

R. F. L.

*London, S. Matthew's Day, 1869.*

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## DIRECTIONS.

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*This Book consists of twelve Offices: one for each day of the week, one for our Saviour's Feasts, one for the Holy Ghost, one for the Blessed Virgin, one for Saints, and one for the Departed.*

*Each Office has two parts: Matins for the morning, Vespers for the evening.*

### THE MANNER OF RECITING.

*When one says his prayers alone, the circumstances are free to be governed by his own devotion; but if two or more say together, it is convenient they agree on some rules, for which purpose these following are proposed, yet so to be altered by their own discretion as they please.*

#### MATINS.

*First, both stand awhile to make the Presence of God and implore His assistance, either without set form of words, or with the Prayer, Prevent, we beseech Thee, &c., secretly.*

*Then both make the sign of the Cross, and say, In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Then both joining their hands before their breasts, and lowly bowing their heads, say, Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Then both kneel and say, Our Father, Hail! Mary, I believe, thus far secretly.*

*Then both rise, and, standing, A. says, with an audible voice, O Lord, open Thou our lips. (Saying these words, he makes the sign of the Cross near his mouth.)*

*B. And our mouths shall shew forth Thy praise.*

*A. O God, make speed to save us. (Saying this, he makes the sign of the Cross from the forehead to the breast, and from the left shoulder to the right.)*

*B. O Lord, make haste to help us.*

*A. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

*B. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

*Then both say, Alleluia! except in Lent, when Alleluia! is always omitted.*

*Then, both standing, A. says the Invitatory and the first verse of the Psalm; B. repeats the Invitatory; A. says the second verse of the Psalm; B. the Invitatory; and so to the end of that Psalm. A. says, Glory be; B. As it was; A. says the Invitatory, and each recites a stanza of the Hymn, A. beginning.*

*Then one says the Antiphon, the other begins the Psalm, which they recite alternately, both sitting.*

*At the end of the Psalm both rise and bow their heads, while the first verse of Glory be, &c., is said.*

*The Psalm being ended, both standing say secretly, Our Father.*

*Then A. reads the Lesson; B. begins the Responsory, as far as the first paragraph; then A. takes it, and goes on to the next full point; then B. to the second paragraph; and A. again repeats to the next full point, as before; B. Glory be; A. the second part of it, the Responsory.*

*Thus are all Responsories said.*

*At the end of the Responsory, Te Deum is said on all Sundays and Holy Days, except the Sundays of Advent and Lent, and then it is omitted.*

*In all Commemorations, B. says the Antiphon, A. the Versicle; B. the Responsory, A. the Prayer.*

*After all the Prayers, both of the day and of the Commemorations, A. says—*

A. O Lord, hear our prayers.

B. And let our supplications come unto Thee.

A. Bless we our Lord.

B. Thanks be to God.

A. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

B. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

*Then A. says, The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever.*

B. Amen.

*Pause awhile, then rise, and so ends the Morning Office.*



## VESPERS.

*Both stand a while, to make the Presence of God, and implore His grace.*

*Then say, In the Name, &c.; Blessed be, &c.; as at Matins.*

*Then kneeling down say, Our Father, Hail! Mary; thus far secretly.*

*Then both rise and stand. A. says audibly, O God, make speed to save us. (Saying these words, he makes the sign of the Cross from forehead to breast, &c.) B. O Lord, make haste to help us.*

*Then the Antiphon and Psalms are all recited alternately, both sitting: then both standing up, A. reads the Lesson; the other begins the Hymn, of which each says his stanza to the end.*

*Then B. says the Antiphon; A. the Versicle; B. the Responsory.*

*Then both kneeling, A. says the Prayer of the day; B. Amen.*

*In all Commemorations, B. says the Antiphon; A. the Versicle; B. the Responsory; A. the Prayer.*

*After all the Prayers, both of the day and of the Commemorations, A. Vouchsafe; B. Amen.*

*A. All the Versicles following.*

*B. All the Responsories.*

*A. The Prayer, Visit we, &c.; B. Amen.*

*A. O Lord, hear; B. And let our.*

*A. Bless we our Lord; B. Thanks be to God.*

*A. May the souls, &c.; B. Amen.*

*Pause awhile: then A. says, The blessing of God, &c.; B. Amen.*

## HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION.

*All Sundays, Christmas, Circumcision, Epiphany; Easter Day, and two days following; Whitsun Day, and two days following; Ascension, the Twelve Apostles, Conv. of S. Paul, Purification of Blessed Virgin Mary, Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, S. Mark, Nativity of S. John Baptist, S. Michael and All Angels, S. Luke, All Saints, S. Stephen, Holy Innocents.*

## MOVEABLE HOLY DAYS.

*Ash-Wednesday, Easter Day, with two days next following; Ascension Day; Whitsun Day, with two days following; Corpus Christi Day, Advent Sunday.*

## DAYS OF FASTING.

*All Lent, except Sundays; the Eves of Christmas, Easter, Ascension, and Whitsun Day; of the Purification and Annunciation, unless it fall in Easter Week; Nativity and Assumption of the Blessed Virgin; All Saints; of all the Twelve Apostles, except S. John Evangelist, SS. Philip and James; Nativity of S. John Baptist; of S. Lawrence; all Fridays, except in Christmas, and between Easter and Ascension, "As long as the Bridegroom is with us" (Matt. ix. 15). The Ember Days, being Wednesday, Friday, and Saturdays next following the first Sunday in Lent, Whitsun Day, the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, and S. Lucy's Day.*

## DAYS OF ABSTINENCE.

*All Sundays in Lent; all Saturdays in the year; the Rogation Days, being Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday before Ascension; and S. Mark's Day, if it fall not in Easter Week.*

## OF CONCURRENCE OF OFFICES.

*If a Holy Day fall on a Sunday, the Office is said for the Holy Day, except Easter Day, Whitsun Day, Trinity Sunday, and the Sundays in Advent; on which days Commemoration only is made of the Holiday.*

*If any Holy Day happen on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday in Holy Week, it is omitted that year without a Commemoration.*

*If any Holy Day happen on Monday or Tuesday in Easter or Whit Week, it is omitted that year with a Commemoration.*

## AN OCTAVE

*Is the same day seven nights after a Feast, till which be past, the Feast is every day commemorated.*

*These Feasts have Octaves:—Christmas, Epiphany, Ascension, Whitsun Day, Corpus Christi, All Saints.*

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*The Lessons are out of Holy Scripture, but the particular places not always cited, because sometimes the Lesson is not taken out of one place alone, but of many.*

## Matins.

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MORNING PRAYER is a duty which God requires as the first-fruits of the day; most religiously, then, should it be consecrated to Him.

The success of our actions for the day depends, in a great measure, upon this first duty. To begin the day without imploring God's grace, and thanking Him sincerely for the repose of the night, is certainly to expose ourselves to infinite danger.

But before prayer, recollect yourself a moment; think what you are, of yourself, and what God is, to Whom you are going to speak.

You will thus conceive the importance of the action, and the sentiment of humility; of regret for your faults; of attention, respect, and modesty; of fervour, love, and confidence, with which you should address Him.

## THE OFFICE FOR SUNDAY

### MATINS.

*Adore God for our Lord's glorious Resurrection, and the institution by the holy Apostles of the Christian Day of Rest; for God's finishing the Creation, and resting from all the works which He had made.*

#### *Introduction.*

**P**REVENT, we beseech Thee, O Lord, all our doings with Thy most gracious favour, and further them with Thy continual help; that every prayer and work of ours may emanate from Thee, and by Thee be happily ended; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.

**O**UR Father, Which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hail! Mary, &c.

**I** BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead and buried, He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead, He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the life everlasting. Amen.

Y. O Lord, open Thou our lips. †

R. And our mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

Y. O God, make speed to save us.

R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

Y. *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

R. *As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

*(Thus far is the Introduction.)*

*Invitatory.*

Come, let us adore our glorified Jesus.

*Psalms.*

Behold the angels assembled in their choirs, and the blessed saints ready with their hymns; behold, the Church prepares her solemn offices, and summons all her children to bring in their praises.

*Come, let us adore our glorified Jesus.*

The King of Heaven Himself invites us, and graciously calls us into His own Presence; He bids us suspend our mean employments in the world to receive the honour of treating with Him.

*Come, let us adore our glorified Jesus.*

To Him we owe all the days of our life; at least let us pay this one to His service, a service so sweet and easy in itself, and so infinitely rich in its eternal rewards.

*Come, let us adore our glorified Jesus*

Let us cheerfully ascend to the house of our Lord, the place He has chosen for our sakes to dwell in; let us reverently bow before His holy Altar, where Himself comes to meet us and our prayers.

*Come, let us adore our glorified Jesus.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

Come, let us adore our glorified Jesus.

*Hymn.*

OUR limbs refresh'd with slumber now,  
And sloth cast off, in prayer we bow;  
And while we sing Thy praises dear,  
O Father, be Thou present here!

To Thee our earliest morning song,  
To Thee our hearts' full powers belong;  
And Thou, O Holy One, prevent  
Each following action and intent.

As shades at morning flee away,  
And night before the Star of day,  
So each transgression of the night  
Be purged by Thee, celestial Light!

Cut off, we pray Thee, each offence,  
And every lust of thought and sense;  
That by their lips who Thee adore  
Thou may'st be praised for evermore.

O Father, that we ask be done,  
Thro' Jesus Christ, Thine Only Son!  
Who, with the Holy Ghost and Thee,  
Shall live and reign eternally. Amen.

*Antiphon.* This is the day the Lord hath made; let us be glad and rejoice therein. *Alleluia.*

*Psalm.*

WELCOME, blest day,  
wherein the Sun of Righteousness arose and chased away the clouds of fear.

Welcome, thou birth-day of our hopes, a day of joy and public refreshment;

A day of holiness and solemn devotion; a day of rest and universal jubilee.

This is the day which our Lord hath made; let us be glad and rejoice therein.

This is the day He hath sanctified to Himself, and called by His own most Holy Name;

That in it we may meet to adore His greatness, and admire the wonders of His infinite power;

That we may visit His holy



Temple, and humbly present our homage at His holy altars—

Those holy altars where the Sacrifice of the Lamb of God is daily shewn forth, and the memory of our Saviour's life continually renewed;

That the ignorant minds may be taught Thy truth, and learn the way to everlasting happiness;

That the guilty consciences may accuse their crimes, and be absolved on earth to be pardoned in heaven;

That the love-prepared souls may approach Thy Table, and feast their hope with that delicious Banquet;

That all may speak to Thee by prayer, and hear Thy voice by the mouth of Thy pastors.

O blessed Lord, what excellent arts has Thy wisdom invented to bring us unto Thyself!

Thou takest our eyes by the beauty of Thy house, and the decent splendours of Thy solemn offices.

Thou quickenest our affections by the liveliness of pictures, and meltest our hearts with the sweetness of music.

Thou strengthenest our faith

*Antiphon.* This is the day  
be glad and rejoice therein.

*Our Father, &c.*

*Lesson.* I Cor. xv. 20; and Col. iii.

**B**UT now Christ is risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept.

For since by man came death,

by Thy public assemblies, and improvest our charity both to Thee and to one another.

Happy, thrice happy they, O merciful God, whom Thy providence has favoured with all these blessings;

Who freely may enter Thy holy Sanctuary, and sing aloud their praises to Thy Name;

Who every day may wait on Thy altars, and there securely adore Thy Person.

But where Thou art pleased to deny these mercies, refuse not, O Lord, to extend Thy grace,

That at least we may build a little chapel in our hearts, and consecrate ourselves entirely to Thee.

Be Thou but present, gracious God! and fill our souls with Thy chaste love.

No further motives shall we need to draw us; nor scruple to address our prayers,

Since every place where Thou art not is unholy; and where Thou art is joy and peace.

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

the Lord hath made; let us  
*Alléluia.*

by man came also the resurrection from the dead.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things that are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth.

For you are dead, and our life is hid with Christ in God.

When Christ, Who is your life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory.

Mortify, therefore, your members that are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

For which things' sake the

wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience.

In the which you also walked when you lived in them.

But now you also put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of thy mouth.

Lie not one to another, seeing that you have put off the old man, with his deeds:

And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge, after the image of Him that created him.

Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, bond or free, but Christ is all in all.

### *Responsory.*

O glorious Jesus! in Whom we live, and without Whom we die, mortify in us all sensual desires, and quicken our hearts with Thy holy love, that we no longer esteem the vanities of the world, but place our affections entirely on Thee:

*Who didst die for our sins, and rise again for our justification.*

O Thou, our only hope and portion in the land of the living! may our thoughts and conversation still be of Thee, our works and sufferings all for Thee:

*Who didst die for our sins, and rise again for our justification.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

*Who didst die for our sins, and rise again for our justification.*

### *Antiphon.*

Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is risen;

He is not here; He is gloriously ascended, and the heavens have received Him. *Alleluia, Alleluia.*

℣. Our Lord is risen and ascended indeed.

℞. The first fruits of those that die in His love.

*Te Deum Laudamus.*

WE praise Thee, O God : we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord.

All the earth doth worship Thee : the Father everlasting.

To Thee all Angels cry aloud : the Heavens, and all the Powers therein.

To Thee Cherubin, and Seraphin : continually do cry,

Holy, Holy, Holy : Lord God of Sabaoth ;

Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty : of Thy Glory.

The glorious company of the Apostles : praise Thee.

The goodly fellowship of the Prophets : praise Thee.

The noble army of Martyrs : praise Thee.

The holy Church throughout all the world : doth acknowledge Thee ;

The Father : of an infinite Majesty ;

Thine honourable, true : and only Son ;

Also the Holy Ghost : the Comforter.

Thou art the King of Glory : O Christ.

Thou art the everlasting Son : of the Father.

When Thou tookest upon Thee

to deliver man : Thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.

When Thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death : Thou didst open the kingdom of Heaven to all believers.

Thou sittest at the right hand of God : in the glory of the Father.

We believe that Thou shalt come : to be our Judge.

We therefore pray Thee : help Thy servants : whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy precious Blood.

Make them to be numbered with Thy Saints : in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save Thy people : and bless Thine heritage.

Govern them : and lift them up for ever.

Day by day : we magnify Thee ;

And we worship Thy Name : ever world without end.

Vouchsafe, O Lord : to keep us this day without sin.

O Lord, have mercy upon us : have mercy upon us.

O Lord, let Thy mercy lighten upon us : as our trust is in Thee.

O Lord, in Thee have I trusted : let me never be confounded.

*Prayer.*

O God ! Who hast glorified our victorious Saviour with a visibly triumphant resurrection from the dead, and ascen-

sion into Heaven, where He sits at Thy right hand, the world's supreme Governor and final Judge! Grant, we humbly beseech Thee, His triumphs and glories may ever shine in our eyes, to make us more clearly see through His sufferings, and more courageously bear our own; being assured by His example, that if we endeavour to live and die like Him, purely for the advance of Thy love, in ourselves and others, Thou wilt raise, too, our bodies, and conform them to His glorious Body, call us up above the clouds, and give us possession of Thy everlasting Kingdom; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. Amen.

*Here may follow prayers of obligations—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., and of any society you may belong to.*

Y<sup>r</sup>. O Lord, hear our prayers.

R. And let our supplications come unto Thee.

Y<sup>r</sup>. Bless we our Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Y<sup>r</sup>. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

Y<sup>r</sup>. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever.

R. Amen.

## Hesperis.

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IF it be a duty of the greatest importance to begin the day well, it is one of no less consequence to conclude it properly. The graces conferred on us during the course of the day, and the protection we stand in need of against the dangers of the night, are urgent reasons why we should address ourselves to God, and pray to Him with the utmost gratitude and fervour.

A daily examination of conscience—in general, with regard to our whole conduct throughout the day; and, in particular, with regard to our predominant vice, passion, or evil custom, and the virtue we want most to acquire—is strongly recommended by all spiritual writers as one of the most important duties of Christian life, and the most profitable exercise we can apply ourselves to for avoiding sin and acquiring virtue. It is a looking-glass in which we see ourselves in our true colours, and come to the knowledge of our sins and evil inclinations. It is a sponge by which we wipe away guilt from our souls, and become the more pure before God the more diligently we practise it. If we do not daily weed the garden of our souls by this holy exercise, the corrupt ground of the heart will naturally produce vices and imperfections in abundance.

The examination of conscience and act of contrition form the most important part of your evening exercise.

The many signal blessings which God has bestowed, and does bestow, in those families where prayers are regularly said in common, should be a sufficient inducement to establish this practice everywhere; and chiefly at night, when all may be assembled with greater convenience. “Where two or three are met together in My Name, there,” said Christ, “am I in the midst of them.” O Christians, what stronger inducement can we have to procure so great a happiness?

## SUNDAY VESPERS.

*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Hail! Mary, &c.*

Ÿ. O God, make speed to save us.

R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

Ÿ. *Glory be, &c.*

R. *As it was, &c. Alleluia.*

*Antiphon.* Glorious things are said of thee, thou City of the King of Heaven. *Alleluia.*

*Psalm.*

NEVER can we say too much of this glorious subject; never can we think enough of the felicities of heaven.

Arise, my soul, to thee these joys belong; arise, and advance thyself on high.

Leave here below all earthly thoughts; and fly away with the wings of thy spirit.

Fly to that glorious land of promise; and gladly salute those heavenly regions.

Hail! happy paradise of pure delights; thou beauteous garden of never-fading flowers.

Hail! blest society of beautiful spirits, who perpetually contemplate the Eternal Deity.

Hail! and for ever may your glories grow, till they rise so high they can grow no more.

Hail! and among your cheerful hymns remember us who dwell below in this vale of tears.

We hope one day to come to you, and be placed to sing in your holy choirs.

There we shall rest from sin and sorrow, and no longer be troubled with ourselves or others.

O Heaven! the eternal source of all these joys, and infinitely more, and infinitely greater.

Who will give me the wings of a dove, that I may fly away and be at rest?

That I may fly away from the troubles of this life, and be at rest, dear Lord, with Thee.

Here we, alas! are forced to sigh, and bear with grief the burden of our miseries.

Often we encounter temptations that endanger us; and divert our prayers in the way to bliss.

Often we are assaulted with these temptations that overcome us; and set us back in the accounts of eternity.



O Thou victorious Conqueror of sin and death! do Thou assist us in this dangerous warfare.

Make us still thirst and sigh after Thee; the living foundation of life-giving streams!

To meditate the joys of saints and angels; and the blissful vision of the face of Jesus.

O how secure and sweetly do they sleep who go to bed with a quiet conscience!

Who after a day of faithful industry, in a course of just and pious living,

Lay down their wearied heads in peace, and safely rest in the bosom of Providence.

This too, my soul, should be our care: to note, and censure, and correct ourselves;

To strive for mastery over the

*Antiphon.* Glorious things are said of thee, thou City of the King of Heaven. *Alleluia.*

*Lesson.* Romans xii. 9.

LET love be without dissimulation; hate that which is evil, cleave to that which is good.

Be kindly affectionated one toward another, with brotherly love in honour preferring one another.

Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.

Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing instant in prayer.

Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

Bless them which persecute you; bless and curse not.

passions that molest us, and dismiss from our thoughts what no way concerns us;

Follow the way that leads to truth, follow the truth that leads to life;

Follow the steps of thy beloved Jesus, Who alone is the way, the truth, and the life;

Follow His holiness in what He did; follow His patience in what He suffered;

Follow Him that calls thee with a thousand promises; follow Him that crowns thee with infinite rewards;

Follow thy faithful Lord, O my soul, to the end; and thou art sure in the end to possess Him for ever.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

Be of the same mind one toward another.

Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate.

Be not wise in your own conceits.

Recompense to no man evil for evil; provide things honest in the sight of all men.

If it be possible, as much as in you lieth, live peaceably with all men.

Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place

unto wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is mine, and I will repay it.

Therefore, if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give

him drink; for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head.

Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

*Hymn.*

**B**E present, Holy Father,  
Unseen by mortal eye;  
And Christ the Word Eternal,  
And Spirit from on high.

Thou Trinity in Essence,  
And light and virtue One!  
Father, Son, and Spirit,  
Of Father and of Son.

The toil of day is over;  
The hour of rest comes round,  
And in its turn kind slumber  
Our members hath unbound.

Servant of Christ, remember  
The font's Baptismal dew;  
Remember thy renewal  
In Confirmation too.

And thou, O crafty serpent,  
Who seek'st by many an art,  
And many a guileful winding,  
To vex the quiet heart:

Depart, for Christ is present;  
Since Christ is here, give place;  
And let the sign ✠ thou ownest  
Thy ghostly legions chase.

And though awhile the body  
In sleep may lie reclined,  
Yet Christ, in very slumber,  
Shall fill the Christian mind.

All laud to God the Father,  
All laud to God the Son;  
To God the Holy Spirit  
Be equal honour done. Amen.

*Antiphon.* Fear not, Mary, thou hast found grace with the Lord; behold, thou shalt conceive and bear a Son. *Alleluia.*

*Magnificat.*

**M**Y soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For He hath regarded: the lowliness of His hand-maiden.

For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.

For He that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is His Name.

And His mercy is on them that fear Him: throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with His arm: He hath scattered the

proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering His mercy hath holpen His servant Israel: as He promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* Fear not, Mary, thou hast found grace with the Lord; behold, thou shalt conceive and bear a Son.  
*Alleluia.*

Ÿ. Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither can the heart of man conceive the things:

R. Which God hath prepared for them that love Him.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who graciously wooest us to our eternal inheritance, by describing its inexpressible glories in all manner of ways which are apt to work upon our low conceits, that they may fitly interpose themselves and become by degrees absolute master of our hearts; bring them, we beseech Thee, still seasonably into our memories, and so strongly settle them in our affections, that our souls, being wholly ravished with these great hopes, all the temptations and vanities of this world may fly unconcerning by us, and never be able to distract our entire, and steady, and daily strengthening desires of entering once and for ever into possession of Thy Kingdom; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

Ÿ. Vouchsafe us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, a quiet night and a happy end.

R. Amen.

Ÿ. Lord, have mercy upon us.

R. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Ÿ. Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Our Father, &c.*

Ÿ. And lead us not into temptation.

R. But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Ÿ. Into Thy hands, O Lord, we commend our spirits.

R. Thou hast redeemed us, O Lord, Thou God of Truth

Ȳ. Preserve us, O Lord, as the apple of Thine eye.

R. Under the shadow of Thy wings protect us.

Ȳ. Save us, O Lord, waking; defend us sleeping.

R. That we may watch with Christ, and rest in peace.

Ȳ. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin.

R. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us.

Ȳ. O Lord, let Thy mercy be upon us.

R. As our hope is in Thee.

Ȳ. O Lord, hear our prayers.

R. And let our crying come unto Thee.

*Prayer.*

Visit, we beseech Thee, O Lord, this habitation, and drive far away all snares of the enemy. Let Thy holy angels dwell therein to preserve us in peace, and may Thy blessing be upon us for ever; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. Amen.

Ȳ. O Lord; hear our prayer.

R. And let our crying come unto Thee.

Ȳ. Bless we our Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Ȳ. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

Ȳ. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever.

R. Amen.

THE OFFICE FOR MONDAY  
MATINS.

*Adore God for the works of creation, and celebrate His infinite power, wisdom, and goodness; praise Him as the great Architect of the world; He made it, with infinite skill and art, in number, weight, and measure.*

The *Introduction* to be said as on page 2.

*Invitatory.*

Come, let us adore our God that made us.

*Psalm.*

Let us with reverence appear before Him, and humble ourselves in the presence of His glory; let us all bring forth our psalms of praise, and sing with joy to our Creator.

*Come, let us adore our God that made us.*

He made us, not we ourselves; and freely bestowed on us all the rest of His creatures; to engage our hearts to love His goodness, and admire the riches of His infinite glory.

*Come, let us adore our God that made us.*

Our bodies He framed of the dust of the earth; and gave us a soul after His own likeness—a soul which all created nature cannot fill, nor anything below His own immensity.

*Come, let us adore our God that made us.*

For Himself He made us, and for His glorious kingdom; that we might dwell with Him in perfect bliss, and sing His praises for ever.

*Come, let us adore our God that made us.*

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

Come, let us adore our God that made us.

*Hymn.*

THOU brightness of the Father's ray,  
 Thou Light of light, and Day of day;  
 Light's fountain and eternal spring;  
 Thou Morn the morn illumining.

Glide in, Thou very Sun divine;  
 With everlasting brightness shine;  
 And shed abroad on every sense  
 The Spirit's light and influence.

Thee, Father, let us seek aright—  
 The Father of perpetual light,  
 The Father of Almighty grace—  
 Each wile of sin away to chase.

Our acts with courage do Thou fill;  
 Blunt Thou the tempter's tooth of ill;  
 Misfortune into good convert;  
 Or give us grace to bear unhurt.

Our spirits, whatsoever betide,  
 In chaste and loyal bodies guide;  
 Let faith, with fervour unalloyed,  
 The bane of falsehood still avoid.

And Christ our daily food be nigh;  
 And Faith our daily cup supply;  
 So may we quaff, to calm and bless,  
 The Spirit's rapturous holiness.

Now let the day in joy pass on:  
 Our modesty like early dawn,  
 Our faith like noontide splendour glow,  
 Our souls the twilight never know.

All laud to God the Father be;  
 All laud, Eternal Son, to Thee;  
 All laud, as is for ever meet,  
 To God the Holy Paraclete. Amen.

*Antiphon.* Bless our Lord, O my soul; and all that is  
 within me praise His holy Name.

*Psalm.*

TOO glorious art Thou, O Lord, in Thyself; and Thy direct rays shine too bright for our eyes.

Yet may we venture to praise Thee in Thy works; and contemplate Thee, at least, reflected from Thy creatures.

In them we may safely behold our mighty Maker, and freely admire the magnificence of our God.

Heaven and earth are full of His greatness; heaven and earth were created by His power.

From Him all the hosts of angels received their being; from Him they have the honour to assist in His presence.

He kindled warmth and brightness in the sun; and beautifully garnished the firmament with stars.

He spread the air, and stored it with flocks of birds; He gathered the waters, and replenished them with shoals of fishes.

He established the earth on a firm foundation; and richly adorned it with innumerable varieties.

Every element is filled with His blessings, and all the world with His wonderful miracles.

He spake the word, and they were made; He commands, and they are still preserved.

He governs their motions in perfect order, and distributes to each its proper office;

Contriving the whole into one vast machine, a spacious theatre

of His own unlimited greatness.

Oh, glorious Architect of universal nature, Who disposest all things in number, weight, and measure,

How does Thy wisdom engage us to admire Thee, how does Thy goodness oblige us to love Thee.

Not for themselves alone, O gracious God, did Thy hand procure those happy spirits;

But to receive in charge Thy little flock, and safely conduct them to the folds of bliss.

Not for themselves at all, O bounteous Lord, were the rest of this huge creation framed;

But to sustain our lives on the way, and carry us on to our eternal home.

O may our souls first praise Thee for themselves, and employ their whole powers to improve in Thy service.

May we praise Thee, O Lord, for all Thy gifts, but infinitely, above all, still value the Giver.

May every blessing be a motive of gratitude, and every creature a step of approach towards Thee.

So shall we faithfully observe their end, and happily arrive at ours.

Using them only to entertain us here, till our souls be prepared for the life of heaven;

Till they become purified for Thee, and then fly near to Thy holy presence.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*



*Antiphon.* Bless our Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me praise His holy Name.

*Our Father, &c.*

*Lesson.* Genesis i. 1.

IN the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

And God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night.

And the evening and morning were the first day.

And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.

And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

*Responsory.*

Open Thou our eyes, O Lord, that we may see the beauty of Thy commands: how wise and sweet they are in themselves, how necessary and beneficial unto us:

*While they improve our felicity here, and entitle us to that of hereafter.*

Guide Thou our lives, O gracious Lord, in the way of Thy precepts; that by observing faithfully these excellent rules, we may all be evermore happy:

*While they improve our felicity here, and entitle us to that of hereafter.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

*While they improve our felicity here, and entitle us to that of hereafter.*



*Antiphon.*

Consider well your steps, O ye children of men : behold who regards you : walk sincerely, and walk confidently, for His rod and staff are ever at hand to comfort you.

℣. Fear not, O ye of little faith ! He is here.

R. Presume not, O ye much inclined to folly ! He is here.

*Antiphon.* He that framed the heart of man designed it for Himself, and bequeathed it unquietness till possess of its Maker :

*Benedictus.*

**B**LESSED be the Lord God of Israel : for He hath visited, and redeemed His people ;

And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us : in the house of His servant David ;

As He spake by the mouth of His holy prophets : which have been since the world began ;

That we should be saved from our enemies : and from the hands of all that hate us ;

To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers : and to remember His holy covenant ;

To perform the oath which He sware to our forefather Abraham : that He would give us ;

That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies : might serve Him without fear ;

In holiness and righteousness before Him : all the days of our life.

And Thou, Child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest : for Thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways ;

To give knowledge of salvation unto His people : for the remission of their sins,

Through the tender mercy of our God : whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us ;

To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death : and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* He that framed the heart of man designed it for Himself, and bequeathed it unquietness till possess of its Maker.

℣. Vanity of vanities, all is vanity ;

R. But to love our God, and attend His service.

*Prayer.*

O Almighty Lord, the only wise and good Creator of the universe, Who madest all corporeal nature for the use of man, and man for his own felicity; enlarge our souls, we beseech Thee, humbly to admire and adore Thy infinite fulness of Being in Thyself, and Thy immense liberality of it to us; and mercifully carry on the whole creation to its end, vouchsafing so to order all Thy creatures about us, by Thy grace, that they may attain their perfection in duly serving us, and we ours in eternally enjoying Thee; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c.; or of any society you may belong to.*

Ÿ. O Lord, hear our prayers.

R. And let our supplications come unto Thee.

Ÿ. Bless we our Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Ÿ. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

Ÿ. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, † Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever.

R. Amen.

## MONDAY VESPERS.

*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Hail! Mary, &c.*

✠. O God, make speed to save us.

R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

✠. *Glory be, &c.*

R. *As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* To know Thee, O Lord, is the highest learning; and to see Thy face, the only happiness.

*Psalm.*

LET us now consider, O Lord our God! let us thankfully remember what Thou art to us.

Thou art the great beginning of our nature, and glorious end of all our actions.

Thou art the ever-flowing source from whence we spring, and the immense ocean into which we tend.

Thou art the free bestower of all we possess, and faithful promiser of all we hope.

Thou art the strong sustainer of our lives, and ready deliverer from all our enemies.

Thou art the merciful scourger of our sins, and bounteous rewarder of our obedience.

Thou art the safe conductor of our pilgrimage, and the eternal rest of our wearied souls.

Such words, alas! our narrowness is constrained to use, when we endeavour to speak Thy bounties.

Wider a little can our thoughts

*Antiphon.* To know Thee, O Lord, is the highest learning; and to see Thy face, the only happiness.

extend; yet infinitely less than the least of Thy mercies.

Tell us Thyself: one word of Thine expresses more than all the eloquence of men and angels.

Tell us Thyself, O Thou mild instructor of the ignorant! what Thou art to us.

Say to our souls, Thou art our salvation; but say it so that we may hear Thee.

Gladly will we run after the sound of that Voice, and hope by following it to find out Thee.

When we have found Thee once, O Thou joy of our hearts! never let us lose Thy sight again.

Never let us turn our eyes from Thee, but steadily fix them on Thy glorious face.

Suffer us not to go till Thou hast given us Thy blessing, and then may Thy blessing bind us faster to Thee.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Lesson.* Ephes. vi.

**C**HILDREN, obey your parents in the Lord; for this is right.

Honour thy father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise.

That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long upon the earth.

And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Servants, be obedient to your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of heart, as unto Christ.

Not with eye-service as men-pleasers, but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; with good will doing service as unto the Lord, and not unto men.

Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free.

And ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening, knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with Him.

*Hymn.*

**O** Great Creator of the sky,  
Who wouldest not the floods on high  
With earthly waters to confound,  
But mad'st the firmament their bound.

The floods above Thou didst ordain,  
The floods below Thou didst restrain;  
That moisture might attemper heat,  
Lest the parched earth should ruin meet.

Upon our souls, good Lord, bestow  
The gift of grace in endless flow,  
Lest some renewed deceit or wile  
Of former sin should us beguile.

Let faith discover heavenly light,  
So shall its ray direct us right;  
And let this faith each error chase,  
And never give to falsehood place.

O Father, that we ask be done  
Through Jesus Christ, Thine only Son!  
Who, with the Holy Ghost and Thee,  
Shall live and reign eternally. Amen.

*Prayer.*

O God! Whose gracious providence vouchsafest to put us frequently in mind of our own and the world's last end, by burying every day in the silent grave of night; sweeten, we humbly beseech Thee, and render familiar to our expectation, those terrible periods of time, by our constant due use of this, to balance our accounts with Thee, and fit ourselves for sleep with a devout composure of our souls to their eternal rest; and grant that our yielding so often and so easily, at the summons of our sleepy humours, to suspend for some hours all operations of the whole man, may teach our souls to reflect themselves into a more reasonable willingness, whenever Thou callest, to leave our bodies in the bed of dust, and pass into the state of their own perfect and ever-waking activity and bliss, heightened by such hopes of a completely glorifying resurrection; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i. e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any Society you may belong to.*

℣. Vouchsafe us, we beseech Thee, &c., *see page 13.*

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THE OFFICE FOR TUESDAY  
MATINS.

*Adore God, as the preserver and sustainer of all that He hath created, and particularly as preserver and guardian of men.*

The *Introduction* to be said as on page 2.

*Invitatory.*

Come, let us adore our God that preserves us.

*Psalm.*

From Thee, O Lord, we derive our being; and from the same goodness our continuance to be: if Thou withdrawest Thy hand but a moment, we instantly return to our first nothing.

*Come, let us adore our God that preserves us.*

From all our enemies His providence defends us; and covers our heads in the day of danger: He sends in His grace to relieve our weakness; and disappoints the temptations that threaten to undo us.

*Come, let us adore our God that preserves us.*

Here His almighty power sustains our life, and mercifully allows us space to repent, that by well employing the time He lends us, we may wisely provide for our own eternity.

*Come, let us adore our God that preserves us.*

He still repeats blessings for us, and shall we neglect our duty to Him? He freely bestows on us all our day, and shall we not spend half-an-hour in His service?

*Come, let us adore our God that preserves us.*

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

Come, let us adore our God that preserves us.

*Hymn.*

THE winged herald of the day  
 Proclaims the morn's approaching ray ;  
 And Christ the Lord our souls excites,  
 And so to endless life invites.

Take up thy bed ! to each He cries,  
 Who sick, or wrapped in slumber lies :  
 And chaste, and just, and sober stand,  
 And watch : My coming is at hand.

With earnest cry, with tearful cry,  
 Call we the Lord to hear our prayer ;  
 While supplication, pure and deep,  
 Forbids each chastened heart to sleep.

Do Thou, O Christ, our slumbers wake ;  
 Do Thou the chains of darkness break :  
 Purge Thou our former sins away,  
 And in our souls new light display.

All laud to God the Father be ;  
 All laud, Eternal Son, to Thee ;  
 All laud, as is for ever meet,  
 To God the Holy Paraclete. Amen.

*Antiphon.* God is my Saviour, whom shall I fear ? God is my Protector, of what shall I be afraid ?

*Psalm.*

THUS we depend, and happy we in this dependence, did we but know our own true interest.

We and our whole concerns are deposited with God ; and where can we find a better hand to ensure them ?

Is He not wise enough to choose safely for us, Who disposes all nature in such admirable order ?

Has He not power to go through with His purpose, Who commands the wills of men and angels ?

Wants He, perhaps, an incli-

nation to favour us, Who desires our felicity more than our own hearts ?

He feeds the fowls of the air, and clothes the lilies of the field.

Without His providence not a sparrow falls to the ground ; and shall we mistrust His care for His children ?

Under His government we have lived all this while ; and can we now suspect He will forsake us ?

He has shown His bounty in extraordinary graces ; and will He deny us His lesser blessings ?

He has freely bestowed on us



His dearest Son; how shall He not with Him give us all things else?

All that are truly useful to carry us on our way, and bring us at length to His eternal rest.

If our necessities be the effects of our folly, we must not presume He will maintain us in our sins.

Rather we should strive to moderate our appetites; and correct the vices that have bred these miseries.

But if our wants be innocent and pressing, He will sooner do a miracle than break His word;

His word, which He so often has solemnly engaged, so often proved by a thousand experiments.

Ask but the former ages, and they will tell you the wonders He wrought in favour of His servants.

He multiplied the oil in the poor widow's cruse, and fed His prophet by the service of a raven.

*Antiphon.* God is my Saviour, whom shall I fear? God is my Protector, of what shall I be afraid?

*Our Father, &c.*

*Lesson.*

TRUST in our Lord with all thy heart; and lean not to thy own understanding.

In all thy ways think on Him, and He will direct thy paths.

Be not wise in thine own conceit; fear God, and depart from evil; the greater thou art, the more humble thou shouldest be; seek not the things that are too high for thee, nor search into those above thy strength; but

He dried the sea into a path for His people, and melted the rocks to refresh their thirst.

He made His angels stewards of their provision, and nourished them in the wilderness with the bread of heaven.

Still, O my God, Thy eternal charity retains the same affections for them that rely on Thee.

Still Thy all-seeing wisdom governs the world with the same immense, unalterable goodness.

Nay, surely, now the streams of Thy mercy run more strong, and have wrought to themselves a larger channel,

Since Thou broughtest down the waters from above the heavens; and openedst in Thine own Body a spring of life;

A spring of joy and bliss to revive our hearts, and overflow them with a torrent of everlasting pleasures.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

the thing that God has commanded thee, that do thou; and in many of His works be not thou curious, since it is not necessary for thee to see with thine eyes those things that are hidden.

Lay up thy treasure according to the commandments of the Most High, and it shall profit thee more than gold.

Shut up alms in thy storehouses, and it shall deliver thee



from all affliction: it shall fight for thee against the enemy better than a mighty shield and strong spear: in all thy gifts show a cheerful countenance, and pay tithes with gladness.

Give to the highest according to what he has given thee, and with a good eye give according to the ability of thy hands; for the Lord is thy rewarder, and He will repay thee seven times as much.

When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

The heart of man deviseth his way, but the Lord directeth his steps.

He that is patient is better than he that is strong; and he that rules over his mind than he that conquers cities.

There is no wisdom, nor understanding, nor council against the Lord.

*Responsory.*

Well may we give Thee, O Lord, some part of what we have, since we received from Thee all we have; well may we give with gladness to Thee, since Thy bounty rewards us with so great advantage.

*O make us still mistrust ourselves, and with an humble confidence rely on Thee.*

Without Thy blessing our labours are in vain, and against Thy decrees no *power* can succeed; but if we humbly submit to Thee, Thou wilt direct us; if we keep Thy commandments, Thou wilt defend us.

*O make us still mistrust ourselves, and with an humble confidence rely on Thee.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

*O make us still mistrust ourselves, and with an humble confidence rely on Thee.*

*Antiphon.*

I saw the bright sun show his flaming eyes, and behold, a thousand rays filled the air, and beautifully gilded the earth. His glorious face but masked itself in a cloud, and immediately they vanished away, and their place was to be found no more; and I said, Such, O my God, just such is the stability of every creature.

℣. Even the line we now repeat must beg its breath of Thee.

℞. And stop if Thou desirest it.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who to preserve in reach of happiness those whom Thou preservest in being, sentest down in the fulness of time (as Thy mercy, ancient as our misery, had promised) the true Messias to save the world from the ruin into which Adam's fall had plunged it! Fill our souls, we beseech Thee, through deep admiration of this Thy excessive bounty, with an overflowing love of Thyself, infinitely fuller of goodness than even Thyself canst express to us : and grant that this love may so powerfully endear to us our Heavenly Master's ruling precept and example, that our perfect observing them may reciprocally raise this love, till it fit us for our only bliss, the eternal enjoyment of Thee ; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

℣. O Lord, hear our prayers.

℞. And let our supplications come unto Thee.

℣. Bless we our Lord.

℞. Thanks be to God.

℣. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

℞. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

℣. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever.

℞. Amen.

## TUESDAY VESPERS.

*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Hail! Mary, &c.*

✠. O God, make speed to save us.

R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

✠. *Glory be, &c.*

R. *As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* Dreadful art Thou, O Lord, in the terror of Thy judgments; but infinitely more amiable in the sweetness of Thy mercies.

*Psalm.*

STILL let us sing the mercies of our God, and hold and shake a little longer this sweet key.

When we, alas! lay buried in the abyss of nothing, His own free goodness first called us into being.

He fashioned our limbs in our mother's womb, and filled our nurse's breast with milk.

He enlarged our little steps when we began to go, and carefully preserved our helpless infancy:

Commanding even His angels to bear us in their hands, lest we dash our feet against a stone.

How many dangers have we happily escaped, and not one of them but was governed by His providence!

How many blessings do we daily receive, and not one of them but proceeds from His bounty!

He provided tutors to instruct our youth, and plant in our tender minds the seeds of virtue.

He appointed pastors to feed our souls, and safely guide them in the ways of bliss.

He founded His Church on an immovable rock, to render our faith firm and secure.

He sealed His love with sacraments of grace, to breed and nourish in us the life of charity.

All this Thou hast done, O merciful Lord! the wise Disposer of heaven and earth.

All this Thou hast done, and still goest on by infinite ways to gain us to Thy love.

Thou commandest us to ask, and promisest to grant; Thou invitest us to seek, and assurest us to find.

Thou vouchsafest even Thyself to stand at the door and knock; and, if we open, Thou enterest and fillest our hearts with joy.

If we forget Thee, Thou renewest afresh our memory; if we fly from Thee, Thou still findest some means to recal us.

If we defer our amendment, Thou patiently stayest for us; and when we return, Thou openest Thy arms to embrace us.

Surely, O my God! from all eternity Thou hast cast Thy gracious eyes upon us.

Surely Thy merciful hand has signed our lot, and marked us out for Thy everlasting favours.

We know Thy ways are in the deep abyss, and none can sound the bottom of Thy counsels.

Yet may we safely look on the flowing streams, and gather this comfort from their gentle course.

*Antiphon.* Dreadful art Thou, O Lord, in the terror of Thy judgments; but infinitely more amiable in the sweetness of Thy mercies.

*Lesson.* Rom. xiii.

LET every soul be subject to the higher powers, for there is no power but of God; the powers that be are ordained of God.

Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God; and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation:

For rulers are not a terror to good work, but to the evil.

Wilt thou, then, not be afraid of the powers?

Do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same,

For he is the minister of God to thee for good.

When we were not, Thou freely lovedst us; Thou wilt not forsake us now we strive to love Thee.

When we had lost our way, Thou soughtest after us; Thou wilt not refuse us now we seek after Thee.

Lord, all we have is derived from Thee, and all we expect can come from none but Thyself.

Accomplish Thine own blest purpose in us, and finish these happy beginnings toward us:

For our hopes are great; Thou hast chosen us to Thy glory, since already Thou so kindly hast disposed us by grace.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid, for he beareth not the sword in vain;

For he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doth evil.

Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake;

For for this cause pay you tribute also: tribute to whom tribute is due, custom to whom custom, fear to whom fear, honour to whom honour.

Owe no man anything but to love one another, for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

*Hymn.*

EARTH'S mighty Maker, Whose command  
 Raised from the sea the solid land,  
 And drove each billowy heap away,  
 And bade the earth stand firm for aye :

That so with flowers of golden hue,  
 The seeds of each it might renew ;  
 And fruit-trees, bearing fruit, might yield—  
 And pleasant pasture of the field :

Our spirits' rankling wounds efface  
 With dewy freshness of Thy grace ;  
 That grief may cleanse each deed of ill,  
 And o'er each lust may triumph still.

Let every soul Thy law obey,  
 And keep from every evil way ;  
 Rejoice each promised good to win,  
 And from every mortal sin.

O Father, that we ask be done,  
 Through Jesus Christ, Thine Only Son !  
 Who, with the Holy Ghost and Thee,  
 Shall live and reign eternally. Amen.

*Antiphon.*

What heart can resist the great King of Kings, terrible and amiable, and mightily shewing both in glorious miracles of vengeance and love ?

℣. His right hand holds out a golden sceptre.

℞. And His left a flaming sword.

*Prayer.*

O gracious Lord, Whose laws are but necessary rules of soul-saving love, and Whose commands are but efficacious advices of what our nature requires to grow happy ; quicken, we beseech Thee, the slackness of our obedience to them, by often reflecting on this Thy generous goodness : and

grant that the ready observance paid by all other creatures to Thy least will in serving us, may so reproach our perverse resisting the guidance of Thy sweet Spirit towards our own only good, which Thou kindly callest Thy service, that we may feel ourselves confounded with shame at our wicked follies, and be henceforth anon willing to learn, by all the world about us, our duty to Thee; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i. e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

Ÿ. Vouchsafe us, we beseech Thee, &c., *see page 13.*

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THE OFFICE FOR WEDNESDAY  
MATINS.

*Adore God, as the great Governor and Sovereign of the creation, Who appoints every creature its proper office, and guides all the motions of the universe according to His own infinite wisdom and counsels, thereby to bring about His own glorious designs.*

The *Introduction* to be said as on page 2.

*Invitatory.*

Come, let us adore our God that governs us.

*Psalm.*

He is our great and sovereign Lord, the absolute King of Heaven and earth: He sees at once the whole frame of all things, and thoroughly comprehends their various natures.

*Come, let us adore our God that governs us.*

To every creature He appoints a fit office, and guides all their motions in perfect order, till He has wrought His glorious design, to finish the world in a beauteous close.

*Come, let us adore our God that governs us.*

All these He governs with infinite wisdom, and all for the good of them that love Him: His counsels are deep, and beyond our reach; but all His ways are just and merciful.

*Come, let us adore our God that governs us.*

He governs His enemies with a rod of iron, and punishes their wilfulness with eternal miseries; but His servants He blesses with the privilege of children, and provides for their duty a rich inheritance.

*Come, let us adore our God that governs us.*

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

Come, let us adore our God that governs us.

*Hymn.*

HENCE night, and clouds that night-time brings,  
 Confused and dark and troubled things;  
 The dawn is here, the sky grows white:  
 Christ is at hand, depart from sight!

Earth's dusky veil is torn away,  
 Pierced by the sparkling beams of day;  
 The world resumes its hues apace  
 Soon as the day-star shows its face.

But Thee, O Christ, alone we seek,  
 With conscience pure and temper meek!  
 With tears and chants we humbly pray  
 That Thou wouldst guide us through the day.

For many a shade obscures each sense,  
 Which needs Thy beams to purge it thence.  
 Light of the Morning Star! illumine,  
 Serenely shining, all our gloom.

All laud to God the Father be;  
 All laud, Eternal Son, to Thee;  
 All laud, as is for ever meet,  
 To God the Holy Paraclete. Amen.

*Antiphon.* All my life long will I praise my God, and lift up my hands to His holy Throne.

*Psalm.*

MAY every age sing praises to  
 our God, and all genera-  
 tions adore His providence.

From the beginning His mercy  
 has still laid means to raise us to  
 those blessed objects above our  
 nature.

At first He created Adam with  
 all necessary knowledge, and then  
 ordained the Patriarchs to inform  
 their families.

Afterwards He charged the  
 Angels to bring us His com-  
 mands, and often inspired the  
 Prophets to declare His will.

When He had done all this,

and found it not enough to guide  
 untoward man to his true end;

What did He then to save the  
 perishing world? O strange ex-  
 cess of the Divine goodness!

He sent His own beloved Son  
 to dwell among us, and teach us  
 the art of working our salvation:

That sacred art of training up  
 our souls for heaven, and fitting  
 them for the blissful union with  
 Himself.

But, O Thou King of glorious  
 sweetness, Whose flowing tongue  
 dropped milk and honey!

We were, alas! not happy to



behold Thy Person, nor our ears worthy to hear Thy Voice :

Yet ere we were born Thou hadst us in Thy thoughts, and didst provide a method to supply that defect ;

Selecting a number of choice disciples, and thoroughly instructing them in Thy heavenly doctrine ;

That they might keep alive the memory of Thee, and witness to all nations Thy stupendous works.

Thou didst verify their mission with power of miracles, and enflamedst their hearts with the fire of Thy Spirit.

O'er all the world they proclaimed Thy law, and undauntingly preached the crucified God.

Deep in the hearts of the faithful did they write Thy Gospel, and seal it before their eyes with their own blood.

Their successors deposited the same precious treasure in the common magazine of the Universal Church ;

Enjoining their children to guard it with their lives, and convey it unchanged to future ages.

Thus is the Catholic Faith de-

scended on us, and thus shall continue to the end of the world.

'Tis but to ask our fathers, and they will tell us ; our ancestors, and they will instruct us.

Blessed be Thy wisdom, O Lord, which has laid such marks to seek Thy Church, and opened our eyes to find it.

Blessed be Thy power that has wrought such miracles to confirm Thy faith, and inclined our hearts to believe it.

How many souls are unhappily seduced, and lose themselves in the wilderness of heresy !

While we, by Thy Providence, are directly led the straight and only way to bliss.

How many nations lie miserably involved in the darkness of barbarism and unbelief ;

While we enjoy a clear noon-day, and safely walk in the light of truth.

O infinite Goodness ! Who freely chooseth to pour forth Thy blessings on unworthy us :

As it is from Thee alone we receive these favours, to Thee alone let us return our praises.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* All my life long will I praise my God, and lift up my hands to His holy Throne.

*Our Father, &c.*

*Lesson.*

**L**END to thy neighbour in the time of his need, and pay thou thy neighbour again in due season.

Keep thy word, and deal faithfully with him, and thou shalt always find that which is necessary for thee.

Do good to the just, and thou shalt have great reward; if not from him, yet assuredly from the Lord.

Loose thy money for thy brother and thy friend; hide it not under a stone to be lost.

Be not ashamed to say the truth; for there is a shame that brings sin, and a shame that brings glory and grace.

Accept no man's person against thy soul, nor let the respect of any cause thee to fall.

Be not hasty in thy words, and remiss in thy deeds.

Let not thy hand be stretched out to receive, and closed to give.

Be not as a lion in thy house, nor oppress those that are under thee.

Fear thou the Lord and the king, and meddle not with them that are given to change; for their destruction shall suddenly come upon them.

He that useth much swearing shall be filled with indignity, and the plague shall not depart from his house.

The drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty, and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.

I passed by the field of the slothful man, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding, and, behold! it was grown over with nettles.

By what things a man sins, by the same he shall be tormented.

### *Responsory.*

Blessed, O my God, be Thy Providence for ever, which so plentifully furnishes us with rules of virtue, and so safely guides all those souls to happiness who choose to live under Thy sweet government.

*As Thou hast shown us the way, Lord, give us strength to walk in it, and bring us in the end to Thy eternal rest.*

Make us seriously reflect on every line we read, and love the truth when it most reproves us; make us labour to correct every error of our lives, and always humbly implore Thy gracious assistance.

*As Thou hast shown us the way, Lord, give us strength to walk in it, and bring us in the end to Thy eternal rest.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

*As Thou hast shown us the way, Lord, give us strength to walk in it, and bring us in the end to Thy eternal rest.*

*Antiphon.*

Before man is life and death, good and evil ; that which he chooses shall be given him.

℣. He that follows virtue, chooses good.

℞. But the vicious liver, endless evil.

*Prayer.*

O God, Whose eternal wisdom the Word made flesh and dwelling amongst us not only told the world, with His own sacred mouth, the unthought-of steps which lead directly to heaven, but trod them out plain with His own sacred feet, and ordained others after Him, through all generations, to guide ours steadily in them ; let not, we humbly beseech Thee, so much love and care be lost upon us, but vouchsafe us Thy continually necessary grace, not only to learn by rote and profess with our lips this precious way, kept still open to our eyes, but make it our whole life to walk diligently in it, even to death, and beyond ; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i. e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

℣. O Lord, hear our prayers.

℞. And let our supplications come unto Thee.

℣. Bless we our Lord.

℞. Thanks be to God.

℣. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

℞. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

℣. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever.

℞. Amen.

## WEDNESDAY VESPERS.

*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Hail! Mary, &c.*

✠. O God, make speed to save us.

R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

✠. *Glory be, &c.*

R. *As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* Repent now, my soul, for the evil thou hast done; and bless thy God for the good thou hast received.

*Psalm.*

WELL, we are so much nearer our grave; and all the world is older by a day.

The portion of the wicked is so much less; and their time of punishment so much approached.

The sufferings of the patient so much diminished; and their hopes of delivery so much increased.

They who have spent this day in sin and folly, see all their thoughts now vanish like a dream.

They see all is past but a fear of revenge; and the best that can follow is a bitter repentance.

But such as have wisely bestowed their time, and made another new step towards heaven,

They see their joys come to

meet them on the way, and still grow bigger as they come;

Till by a holy death they join in one, and dwell together for eternal ages.

O Thou best Author of all our hopes, and perfect Satisfier of all our wishes!

Do Thou instruct us in this great wise truth, and let every evening renew it in our minds:

That the things of this world are of little import; since its joys and griefs last but for a time.

But the future state most infinitely concerns us; where life and death endure for ever.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* Repent now, my soul, for the evil thou hast done; and bless thy God for the good thou hast received.

*Lesson.* Gal. v. 19.

NOW the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wraths, strifes, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like; of the which I tell you

before, as I have also told you in time past, that they who do such things shall not inherit the Kingdom of God.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

*Hymn.*

O GOD, Whose hand hath spread the sky,  
And all its shining hosts on high!  
And pointing it with fiery light,  
Made it so beauteous and so bright.

Thou, when the Wednesday was begun,  
Didst frame the circle of the Sun;  
And set the Moon, for ordered change,  
And planets for their wider range.

To night and day, by certain line,  
Their varying bounds Thou didst assign;  
And gav'st a signal, known and meet,  
For months begun and months complete.

Enlighten Thou the hearts of men,  
Polluted souls make pure again;  
Unloose the bonds of guilt within;  
Remove the burden of our sin.

O Father, that we ask be done,  
Through Jesus Christ, Thine only Son!  
Who, with the Holy Ghost and Thee,  
Shall live and reign eternally. Amen.

*Antiphon.*

When, O my soul, did we ever follow our passions, but they instantly wrought our disturbance, and threatened at last our ruin? When did we ever turn our thoughts to piety, but it instantly brought us peace, and refreshed our minds with new hopes of felicity?

Ÿ. The winds are often rough, and our own weight presses us downwards.

R. Reach forth, O Lord, Thy saving hand, and speedily deliver us.

*Prayer.*

O God, Whose merciful providence sweetens and makes easy the laborious course of our pilgrimage through this world with constant warnings and seasons of repose! Vouchsafe us, we humbly beseech Thee, to make our due advantage of this Thy mercy; composing our souls more satisfiedly to rest, by a faithful recollection every evening how we have kept our way, and whether we are advanced; and grant that, reflecting with hearty contrition on every step we have made out of the right way, and with thankful acknowledgements for those Thou hast led us aright, we may henceforth be rendered more careful of our deviating inclinations, and more attentively obedient to the steady guidance of Thy grace; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

Ÿ. Vouchsafe us, we beseech Thee, &c., *see page 13.*

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THE OFFICE FOR THURSDAY  
MATINS.

*Adore God for instituting the Holy Eucharist on this day, because our Lord, on the day before His Passion, appointed that Holy Sacrament and commemorative Sacrifice to be a perpetual memorial or commemoration before God, as well as among men, of the great propitiatory Sacrifice He made upon the Cross.*

The *Introduction* to be said as on page 2.

*Invitatory.*

Come, let us adore our God that feeds us.

*Psalm.*

He freely opens His bounteous hand, and fills with His blessing every living creature : He gives even kings their daily bread ; and all the world is maintained by His provision.

*Come, let us adore our God that feeds us.*

He feeds our understanding with the knowledge of truth ; and strengthens our wills with His holy grace : He refreshes our memories with a thousand benefits ; and feasts our whole souls with everlasting hopes.

*Come, let us adore our God that feeds us.*

With Himself and with His sacred Flesh He feeds us, and nourishes us up to immortal life : beginning even here that blessed Union which shall fully be perfected in His own kingdom.

*Come, let us adore our God that feeds us.*

Come, all we servants of so gracious a Lord, whom He daily entertains with innumerable mercies : come, all you children of so loving a Father, for whom He has provided an eternal feast.

*Come, let us adore our God that feeds us.*

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

Come, let us adore our God that feeds us.



*Hymn.*

NOW, my tongue, the mystery telling,  
 Of the glorious Body sing;  
 And the Blood, all price excelling,  
 Which the Gentiles' Lord and King,  
 In a Virgin's womb once dwelling,  
 Shed for this world's ransoming.

Given for us, and condescending  
 To be born for us below,  
 He with men in converse blending,  
 Dwelt, the seed of truth to sow,  
 Till He closed with wondrous ending  
 His most patient life of woe.

That last night, at supper lying,  
 'Mid the twelve, His chosen band,  
 Jesus, with the law complying,  
 Keeps the feast its rites demand;  
 Then more precious Food supplying,  
 Gives Himself with His own hand.

Word-made-Flesh true Bread He maketh,  
 By His Word His Flesh to be;  
 Wine, His Blood; which whoso taketh  
 Must from carnal thoughts be free:  
 Faith alone, though sight forsaketh,  
 Shows true hearts the mystery.

Therefore we, before Him bending,  
 This great Sacrament revere;  
 Types and shadows have their ending,  
 For the newer Rite is here:  
 Faith, our outward sense befriending,  
 Makes our inward vision clear.

Glory let us give, and blessing,  
 To the Father and the Son;  
 Honour, might, and praise addressing,  
 While eternal ages run:  
 Ever, too, His love confessing,  
 Who from Both with Both is One. Amen.

*Antiphon.* How admirably, O Lord, has Thy wisdom contrived our salvation; infusing even by our senses grace into our souls.



*Psalm.*

SAFE in the hands of the Catholic Church has our Lord deposited the richest treasures of His kingdom ;

Commending His priests to conserve them with reverence, and dispense them to others with a prudent charity.

Soon as we are born into this world of danger, His vigilant Baptism stands ready to save us ;

Ready to wipe out the guilt of our birth, and write our new names in the Book of Life.

What all eternity could never have worn off, a little sprinkling of water washes away.

When we are come to riper years, and a fit capacity of professing our faith,

His holy bishops, by laying on of hands, cherish and confirm our growing belief ;

That we never be ashamed of the Cross of Christ, but to the face of death freely confess Him.

If in our spiritual combat we receive a wound, His appointed priests are waiting to cure us.

Only He requires we should open our sores before them, and heartily repent our wilful rashness.

He requires we should satisfy the world and our own souls, in repairing the damage they sustain by our trespass.

Healed by the bitter waters of penance, we are immediately invited to all the sweetness of Paradise :

To taste the delicious bread of

*Antiphon.* How admirably, O Lord, has Thy wisdom contrived our salvation ; infusing even by our senses grace into our souls.

angels: to eat even the Flesh itself of the Son of God.

So to become entirely one with Him ; while we feed on His Body, and are governed by His Spirit.

That the world may continue in ablest succession, He solemnly sanctified the rites of marriage ;

Exalting that state to the honour of a Sacrament, that we might more regard the holiness of its duties.

To prevent the failing of governors in the Church, the Church for which this world continues,

Themselves are empowered to kindle fresh lights, who still may shine on when the old ones are spent.

Yet is there one important period of our life: the sickness that summons us to the bar of death.

Nor has our gracious Lord forgotten this ; but carefully provided a Holy Office

To allay our fears in that sad hour ; and strengthen our hopes of everlasting felicity :

That we may finish our course in peace, and go up with joy to receive our crown.

Thus by Thy wise indulgent care, O Thou Sweet Conductor of our souls !

Every station of our pilgrimage has a fit entertainment ; and every defeat a proper remedy.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Or,*

*Antiphon.* We confess we are bound to do many things against our will : why not believe some few above our understanding.

*Psalm.*

THESE are the seven bright golden candlesticks, the seven golden sacraments, set up to enlighten and adorn the Church.

But behold, in the midst, one like the Son of Man ; but is indeed the Son of God.

Behold one disguised in the shape of bread ; but is indeed the Son both of God and Man :

He Whom the seraphim prostrate adore, and fly with all their wings to perform His commands :

He Who came down to die for us sinners, and ascended again above the highest heaven,

Himself is there, and graciously stays our coming ; to receive our prayers, and send us home with His blessing.

He is there, though not discerned by sense ; nor the mysteries of His presence comprehended by reason.

Yet may a lively faith pass through the veil, and confidently enter the Holy of Holies ;

A faith that works by love may enter, and fill itself with celestial manna.

But the uncharitable faith shall be cast into darkness, among them that believe and tremble.

Behold, O Lord, we believe and hope ; perfect by Thy vigorous grace our faint endeavours.

*Antiphon.* We confess we are bound to do many things against our will : why not believe some few above our understanding ?

*Our Father, &c.*

Quicken our half-dead faith into a ready assent, wherever Thou art pleased to engage Thy Word.

Why should we doubt the power of God can do something that the weakness of man cannot understand ?

Which of us knows how the common bread we eat is naturally turned into our own substance ?

And shall we dispute the supernatural conversion of this blessed Bread into the substance of our Saviour ?

Shall we submit our reason to the secrets of nature, and make it judge of the mysteries of grace ?

Shall we rely on the reports of men where we do not see, and distrust the Word of God because we do not see ?

No, let us now believe, that hereafter we may see ; when our eyes shall be opened in the kingdom of light ;

Where our dark faith shall cease into vision, and our hope expire into full enjoyment ;

Where all our affections shall be contracted into love, and love extended to eternity.

*Glorify be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Lesson.*

JESUS came and spake to them, saying, All power is given unto Me, both in heaven and earth. (1) Go ye therefore and teach all nations, *baptizing* them in the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. (*Matt.* xxviii. 18).

(2) Now when the Apostles that were at *Jerusalem* heard that *Samaria* had received the Word of God, they sent unto them *Peter* and *John*:

Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:

For as yet He was fallen on none of them, only they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus.

Then laid they their hands upon them, and they received the Holy Ghost. (*Acts* viii. 14.)

(3) Then said Jesus to His disciples, As My Father hath sent Me, even so send I you.

And when He had thus said, He breathed on them, and said unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: whosoever sins ye

*remit*, they are remitted unto them; whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained. (*John* xx. 21.)

(4) The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the *Communion* of the Blood of Christ?

The bread which we break, is it not the Communion of the Body of Christ? (*1 Cor.* x. 16.)

(5) And when they had *ordained* them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, in Whom they believed. (*Acts* xiv. 23.)

(6) For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and they two shall be *one* flesh. This is a great mystery; but I speak concerning Christ and His Church. (*Gen.* ii. 24.)

(7) Is any sick among you, let him call for the presbyters of the Church; and let them pray over him, *anointing* him with oil in the Name of the Lord.

Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we can ask or think, according to the Power that worketh in us; to Him be glory in the Church throughout all ages, world without end. Amen. (*James* v. 14; *Eph.* iii 20.)

*Responsory.*

Blessed, O Lord, be Thy Holy Name, Who hast provided the Scriptures for comfort of the faithful; and blessed be Thy gracious wisdom, Who hast left in Thy Church a rule to interpret them.

*Lest the unlearned and unstable should pervert them to their own destruction.*

Renew, O merciful Lord, a right spirit in the world; a spirit of humility and obedience: that in reading those sacred books, none may prefer their private favours before the testimony of the Church, but readily submit to them, whom he that hears, hears Thee; and he that despises, despises Thee.

*Lest the unlearned and unstable should pervert them to their own destruction.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

*Lest the unlearned and unstable should pervert them to their own destruction.*

*Antiphon.*

Let none excuse their wanderings from the straight path of life; behold a steady Guide: let none pretend faintness and want of spirits to walk in it; behold at every step abundant refreshments.

Y. The Church shines ever bright, as the Sun.

R. And sheds all about us quickening Beams.

*Prayer.*

O bounteous Lord, the continual supplier of Thy creatures with all convenient sustenance; to advance our growth and strength fit to take heavenly violence, and rise at length eternal enjoyers of Thyself, fix, we beseech Thee, our eyes and adoration on that open hand which thus graciously gives us our daily bread; and grant that the miraculous Feast of Thy Son's Body and Blood may duly sanctify our tastes to all other Thy bounties; that they may relish, as they are, only Thy great love to us, and feel, as they ought, purely Thy dear love in us; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

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Ÿ. O Lord, hear our prayers.

R. And let our supplications come unto Thee.

Ÿ. Bless we our Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Ÿ. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

Ÿ. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever.

R. Amen.

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## THURSDAY VESPERS.

*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Hail! Mary, &c.*

✠. O God, make speed to save us.

R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

✠. *Glory be, &c.*

R. *As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* This is the greatest charity that God Himself can bestow : since God can bestow nothing greater than Himself.

*Psalm.*

UNHAPPY MAN! at first created just, as every work comes fair from the hands of God ;

At first endowed with dominion over the earth, and, which was more, with dominion over thyself ;

At first, not only made sole lord of Paradise, but heir-apparent of the Heaven of heavens ;

All this thou hast lost by one rash act, disobeying the law of thy wise Creator ;

All this, alas! we lost by thy transgression, which brought in sin, and death, and universal misery.

Thus lay the miserable world all covered with darkness, and the thickest mists of gross idolatry

This moved Thy pity, gracious Lord! Who often art found by those that seek Thee not.

This moved Thy pity to undertake our relief, and come down Thyself and dwell among us ;

That as our nature used to worship what it saw, we now should see what we might safely worship.

But Thou again, dear Lord, must leave our world ; and though it be good for us, 'tis hard to part with Thee.

Thou must again ascend to Thy Father's bosom, to prepare a place for Thy faithful followers.

Yet, even then, O Thou wise and infinite Goodness! Thou didst not wholly forsake our earth ;

Only Thy outward appearance

was changed, but Thy former Self still dwells among us.

Lord, what a happy change has Thy coming wrought! what glorious effects has Thy doctrine produced!

Narrow was once the gate, and straight the path to bliss; and few there were that found it.

Now we see thousands, with a strong and generous love, run swiftly after Thee in the ways of Thy counsels.

Whence, O my God, could this strange improvement come, but that Jesus ascending left Himself on our Altars?

This is the Mystery that gives life and spirit to the Church, and works all the wonders that adorn the world;

This builds our great and sumptuous temples, to bestow on our God the best house we have;

This, with our richest treasures, beautifies our Altars, to entertain our Lord in the best way we can;

This causes the reverence we pay to priests, and excellently disposes us to believe and obey them;

This keeps alive our dear Redeemer's death, and applies to our souls all the virtue of His passion.

O blest memorial of my Saviour's love, and faithful seal of all His promises!

All the short time I remain in Thy presence I will wholly employ to adore Thy Majesty.

Thee will I bless for all Thy mercies; to Thee will I open all my necessities;

Begging Thy pardon for my past offences, and Thy gracious assistance for the time to come;

Imploring Thy peace for the souls departed, and Thy blessing for all the world.

O spotless Lamb, once slain for us on the Cross, and daily sacrificed on the Holy Altar!

Offer Thy sacred Self before His Throne, and turn away the wrath we deserve for our sins.

If Thou, O Lord, shalt thus restore our liberty, and clothe Thy servants in the robes of innocence;

Then shall we delight to be still in Thy presence, and follow Thee wherever Thou goest.

In Thy processions we'll wait on Thy triumph, in Thy visiting the sick we'll attend Thy charity.

When Thou art lifted up, we'll bow before Thee; when solemnly exposed, we'll publicly adore Thee.

Wherever Thou art, we'll never forsake Thee; wherever we are, our hearts shall be with Thee.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* This is the greatest charity that God Himself can bestow: since God can bestow nothing greater than Himself.



*Lesson.* I Cor. xiii.

**T**HOUGH I speak with the tongues of men and angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burnt, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not, charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

Charity never faileth; but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall be done away.

When I was a child I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things:

For now I see through a glass darkly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I shall know even as I am known.

And now abideth Faith, Hope, and Charity, these three; but the greatest of these is Charity.

*Hymn.*

**T**HE Word of God proceeding forth,  
Yet leaving not the Father's side,  
And going to His work on earth,  
Had reached at length life's eventide.

By a disciple to be given  
To rivals, for His blood athirst,  
Himself, the very Bread of Heaven,  
He gave to His disciples first.

He gave Himself in either kind,  
His precious Flesh, His precious Blood:  
Of flesh and blood is man combined,  
And He of man would be the food.

In birth, man's fellow-man was He;  
His Meat, while sitting at the board;  
He died, his Ransomer to be:  
He reigns to be his great reward.



O Saving Victim, slain to bless!  
 Who op'st the Heavenly Gate to all,  
 The attacks of many a foe oppress,  
 Give strength in strife, and help in fall.

To God, the Three in One, ascend  
 All thanks and praise for evermore;  
 He grant the life that shall not end  
 Upon the Heavenly Country's shore. Amen.

*Antiphon.*

'Thou art ascended, our glorious Redeemer, to prepare a place for us; yet continuest still here, our gracious Emmanuel, to prepare us for it.

Ÿ. It is Thy delight, O Lord, to be with the children of men.

R. O make it ours to be with the God of Heaven.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who, seeing the dulness of our spirits need so often fresh impulses of sense, hast wonderfully contrived our alone saving object, Thy sacrificed Son, continually to solicit our hearts by His own dear Presence, still really among us; reclaim, we humbly beseech Thee, all our wandering affections with this miracle of goodness, and compose them into such a diligent and devout attendance on our graciously veiled Jesus, that we may daily feed our adoration and love of Him, and daily grow in our desires of seeing eternally His glorious Face; Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i. e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

Ÿ. Vouchsafe us, we beseech Thee, &c., *see page 13.*

THE OFFICE FOR FRIDAY  
MATINS.

*To-day we meditate upon God's love towards us, in giving His Son to die for us, and by His sufferings redeeming us from the penalty of our sins.*

The *Introduction* to be said as on page 2.

*Invitatory.*

Come, let us adore our God that redeemed us.

*Psalm.*

When we had sold ourselves to sin, and were all become the slaves of Satan, our blessed Jesu descended from Heaven, and brought a vast price to buy out our freedom.

*Come, let us adore our God that redeemed us.*

The price was no less than His own dearest Blood, which He plenteously shed on the Holy Cross; depositing so His inestimable life, to rescue us sinners from eternal death.

*Come, let us adore our God that redeemed us.*

Let us consecrate this day to His sacred memory, and tenderly compassionate His unparalleled sufferings; repenting from our hearts our many sins, and thankfully admiring His infinite mercies.

*Come, let us adore our God that redeemed us.*

Let us wean our minds from unbecoming delights, and mortify ourselves with a prudent restraint; that, carried on the wings of fasting and alms, our prayers may mount up more swiftly to Heaven.

*Come, let us adore our God that redeemed us.*

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

Come, let us adore our God that redeemed us.

*Hymn.*

SING, my tongue, the glorious battle,  
 With completed victory rife,  
 And above the Cross's trophy  
 Tell the triumph of the strife:  
 How the world's Redeemer conquered  
 By surrendering His life.

God, his Maker, sorely grieving  
 That the first-made Adam fell,  
 When he ate the fruit of sorrow,  
 Whose reward was death and hell,  
 Noted then this wood, the ruin  
 Of the ancient wood to quell:

For the work of our salvation,  
 Needs would have His order so,  
 And the multiform deceiver's  
 Art by art would overthrow;  
 And from thence would bring the med'cine,  
 Whence the insult of the foe.

Wherefore, when the sacred fulness  
 Of th' appointed time was come,  
 This world's Maker left His Father,  
 Sent the heavenly Mansion from,  
 And proceeded, God Incarnate  
 Of the Holy Virgin's womb:

Thirty years among us dwelling,  
 His appointed time fulfill'd,  
 Born for this He meets His Passion,  
 For that this He freely will'd;  
 On the Cross the Lamb is lifted,  
 Where His life-blood shall be spill'd

He endured the nails, the spitting,  
 Vinegar, and spear, and reed;  
 From that holy Body broken,  
 Blood and water forth proceed:  
 Earth, and stars, and sky, and ocean,  
 By that flood from stain are freed.

Faithful Cross! above all other,  
 One and only noble Tree;  
 None in foliage, none in blossom,  
 None in fruit thy peers may be:  
 Sweetest wood and sweetest iron,  
 Sweetest weight is hung on thee!

Bend thy boughs, O Tree of Glory!  
 Thy relaxing sinews bend;  
 For awhile the ancient rigour  
 That thy birth bestowed, suspend,  
 And the King of heavenly beauty  
 On thy bosom gently tend.

Thou alone was counted worthy  
 This world's ransom to uphold,  
 For a shipwrecked race preparing  
 Harbour, like the Ark of old;  
 With the sacred Blood anointed,  
 From the smitten Lamb that roll'd.

To the Trinity be glory  
 Everlasting, as is meet;  
 Equal to the Father, equal  
 To the Son and Paraclete:  
 Trinal Unity, Whose praises  
 All created things repeat. Amen.

*Antiphon.* He humbled Himself for us, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross.

*Psalm.*

SHALL we rejoice, my soul,  
 to-day? shall we not mourn  
 at the funeral of our dear Re-  
 deemer?

Yes, now is the time we should  
 reverently go and offer our hearts  
 at the foot of His Cross.

Under the shade of that happy  
 tree let us kneel, and often look  
 up to our dearest Lord.

Let us compassionate every  
 stroke of His death, and one by  
 one salute His sacred wounds.

Blest be the hands that wrought  
 so many miracles, and were bored  
 with cruel nails.

Blest be the feet that so often  
 travelled for us, and at last were  
 unmercifully fastened to the  
 Cross.

Blest be the head which was

crowned with thorns, the head  
 that so industriously studied our  
 happiness.

Blest be the heart which was  
 pierced with a spear, the heart  
 that so passionately loved our  
 peace.

Blest be the entire Person of  
 our crucified Lord, and may all  
 our powers join in His praise;

Who, to redeem us, humbled  
 Himself to this low world, and  
 all the infirmities of our miserable  
 nature.

He patiently endured hunger  
 and thirst, and the malicious  
 affronts of enraged enemies.

How many times did He  
 hazard His life, to sustain with  
 courage the truth of Heaven!

How many tears did He ten-

derly weep, in compassion of His ungrateful country!

How many drops of blood did He shed in that doleful garden, and on the bitter Cross!

The Cross where, after three long hours of grief and shame and intolerable pains,

He meekly bowed His fainting head, and in an agony of prayer yielded up the ghost.

So sets the glorious Sun in a sad cloud, and leaves our earth in darkness and disorder.

O glorious Jesu! behold, to Thee we bow, and humbly kiss the dust in honour of Thy death.

Behold, thus low we bow, to implore Thy blessing, and the

*Antiphon.* He humbled Himself for us, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross.

*Lesson.*

**H**EARKEN unto Me, My people; give ear unto Me, O My nation; for a law shall proceed from Me, and I will make My judgment to rest for a light of My people. (*Isa.* li. 14.)

I gave My back to the smiters, and My cheeks to them that plucked off the hair; I hid not My face from spitting. (*Isa.* l. 6.)

I have trodden the winepress alone, and of the people there was none with Me; I looked, and there was none to help. (*Isa.* lxiii. 3, 5.)

All that see Me laugh Me to scorn; they shoot out their lips, they shake the head, saying, He trusted in the Lord that He would deliver Him; let Him deliver Him, seeing He delighteth in Him. (*Psalms* xxii. 7.)

sure assistance of Thy special grace;

That we may wean our affections from all vain desires, and clear our thoughts from all impertinent fancies.

Then shall our lives be entirely dedicated to Thee, and all the faculties of our souls to Thy holy service.

Our minds shall continually study Thy knowledge, and our wills grow every day stronger in Thy love.

Our memories shall faithfully lay up Thy mercies, and both tongue and heart shall sing for ever.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

I was as one that is deaf, and heard not; as a dumb man, that opens not his mouth. They gaped upon Me with their mouths, as a ravening and roaring lion; for the dogs have compassed Me, the assembly of the wicked have enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet; all My bones are out of joint; they part My garments among them, and cast lots for My vesture. (*Psalms* xxxviii. 13.)

They gave Me gall for My meat, and in My thirst they gave Me vinegar to drink. (*Psalms* xcvi. 2.)

My strength is dried up as a potsherd, and My tongue cleaveth to My jaws; Thou hast brought Me to the dust of death. (*Psalms* xxii. 15.)

*Responsory.*

All this, O blessed Jesu, Thou taughtest by Thy holy prophets, to prepare the world for Thy coming; all this, and infinitely more, Thou verifiedst in Thine own Person, with pains and sorrows and reproaches, able to make even patience itself break forth into this sad complaint:

*Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto My sorrow which is done unto Me, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted Me in the day of His fierce anger.*

I was betrayed, and bound, and led away captive; I was reviled, buffeted, and scornfully spit on; I was stripped, scourged, and condemned to a cruel death; I was crowned with thorns and pierced with nails, and crucified among thieves. O all ye that pass by the way, behold My sorrow.

*Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto My sorrow which is done unto Me, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted Me in the day of His fierce anger.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

*Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto My sorrow which is done unto Me, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted Me in the day of His fierce anger.*

*Here, and every other Fast Day, say, still kneeling—*

℣. Lord, have mercy upon us.

℞. Christ, have mercy upon us.

℣. Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Our Father, &c.*

℣. And lead us not into temptation.

℞. But deliver us from evil. Amen.

- V̇. Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us.  
 R. For our souls trust in Thee.  
 V̇. And under the shadow of Thy wings will we hope;  
 R. Till our iniquities pass away.  
 V̇. Have mercy upon us, O Lord, for we are weak;  
 R. Heal us, O Lord, for we have sinned against Thee.  
 V̇. Our iniquities are gone over our heads;  
 R. And, like a sad burden, sit heavy upon us.  
 V̇. Will not our God require an account of these things?  
 R. Will He not examine every passage of our lives?  
 V̇. He sees the secrets of our hearts;  
 R. And our darkest sins are not hid from Him.  
 V̇. Lord, make us judge ourselves, lest we be condemned  
     by Thee;  
 R. And chastise ourselves, lest we be punished by Thee.  
 V̇. Make us mortify our senses with discreet austerities;  
 R. Particularly in opposition to the passions which most  
     molest us.  
 V̇. That we may reduce our bodies into subjection to our  
     minds;  
 R. And our minds into subjection to Thee.  
 V̇. That as our too much liberty brought us to fall;  
 R. Our just severity may bring us to pardon.  
 V̇. Pardon, O Lord, the iniquities of our sins;  
 R. And graciously remove away all Thy punishments.  
 V̇. Enter not into judgment with Thy servants, O Lord;  
 R. For in Thy sight shall no man living be justified.  
 V̇. Our ruin, we confess, is wholly from ourselves,  
 R. And all our hope is in Thy salvation.  
 V̇. If we repent, and say, Now we will begin;  
 R. It is time now to rise from sleep.  
 V̇. Behold, temptation stands at the door;  
 R. And our weak resistance lets it in.



- V̄. Our corrupt nature conspires with our enemies ;  
 R. And our evil customs prevail against us.  
 V̄. Pity us, O Lord, Thou Who knowest whereof we  
 are made ;  
 R. Wean us from this world, Thou Who madest us for  
 a better.  
 V̄. Deliver us from the occasions that so often endanger  
 us ;  
 R. Deliver us from the occasions that so often overcome  
 us.  
 V̄. Deliver us from all sudden and disastrous mis-  
 chances ;  
 R. Deliver us from the miseries of everlasting tor-  
 ments.  
 V̄. Why art thou sad, O my soul ?  
 R. And why art thou so disquieted within me ?  
 V̄. Still trust in God, for still we should praise His  
 Name ;  
 R. He is our Saviour and our God.  
 V̄. O praise our Lord, for He is good ;  
 R. And His mercy endures for ever.  
 V̄. Let all who fear the Lord now say,  
 R. That His mercy endures for ever.  
 V̄. He was mindful of us in our low estate ;  
 R. For His mercy endures for ever.  
 V̄. And redeemed us from our enemies ;  
 R. For His mercy endures for ever.  
 V̄. He will guide us here in the ways of peace ;  
 R. For His mercy endures for ever.  
 V̄. He will bring us hereafter to the joy of Eternity ;  
 R. For His mercy endures for ever.  
 V̄. O Lord, hear our prayer ;  
 R. And let our cry come unto Thee.



*Antiphon.*

We are bought with a price, even the most precious sweat and blood of Jesus, henceforth to call Him Master, Whose service is perfect freedom, and gives us effectual powers to become the sons of God.

℣. The chains fell off our hands and feet ;

R. When Thine, dear Redeemer, were nailed to the Cross.

*Prayer.*

O Eternal Father, Who sentest down Thine only Son to redeem the world enslaved to sin and Satan, by assuming our frail nature, and powerfully teaching us, both by word and example, its sole way to that bliss for which we are created ; grant, we humbly beseech Thee, that the continual memory of His bitter passion and death on the Cross may beget in us an utter disvalue of the riches or ills we meet with here, compared to the advancing ourselves or others in the esteem of what we hope hereafter ; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

℣. O Lord, hear our prayers.

R. And let our supplications come unto Thee.

℣. Bless we our Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

℣. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

℣. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever.

R. Amen.

## FRIDAY VESPERS.

*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Hail! Mary, &c.*

*V. O God, make speed to save us.*

*R. O Lord, make haste to help us.*

*V. Glory be, &c.*

*R. As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation; O let us humble ourselves as the servants of God, in fasting and watching, in patience and charity.

*Psalm.*

**S**HOULDST Thou, O Lord, have dealt with us in rigour; we had long since been sentenced to eternal death.

Long since our guilty souls had been snatched away, and hurried down to everlasting torments.

But Thy gracious mercy has relieved our lives; and given us space to work out our pardons.

Now is the time of acceptance with Thee; now is the day of salvation for us.

Now let us mourn our former offences, and bring forth fruits meet for repentance.

If we, O Jesu, have hitherto persecuted Thee, and with our sins nailed Thee to the Tree of Death.

Now let our whole endeavours attend Thy service; and loyally conspire to uncrucify our Lord.

Let us ascend to the Mount of Calvary; and as often as we go, kiss Thy holy steps.

We kiss Thy steps when we

love Thy ways; and humble ourselves, and follow Thee.

Let us there in meekness approach Thy Cross; and reverently cover Thy naked Body.

We cover Thee, when our charity clothes Thy servants; and hides the infirmities of Thy little ones.

Let us there, with the tenderest care, unfasten the nails; and gently draw them out of Thy hands and feet.

We draw them out when we freely obey Thy will; and loosen our affections from cleaving to the world.

Lord, when we have thus rescued Thee, and placed Thee again on Thy throne of glory;

Instead of Thyself, nail Thou us to Thy Cross, who really deserve what Thou enduredst.

Crucify our flesh with the fear of Thee; and give us our portion of sorrow here.

Crucify the world to us, and

us to the world ; that dead to it, we may live in Thee.

At least live Thou in us, O Holy Jesu ; and fit our souls for so glorious a guest.

Enter into our hearts, and fill them with Thyself ; that no

room be left for anything but Thee.

One only hope we have, Thy care for us ; one only fear, the neglect of ourselves.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation ; O let us humble ourselves as the servants of God, in fasting and watching, in patience and charity.

*Lesson.* Gal. vi. 14.

**G**OD forbid that I should glory, save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

For in Christ Jesus neither

circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature ; and whomsoever shall follow this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

*Hymn.*

**T**HE royal banners forward go,  
 The Cross shines forth in mystic glow,  
 Where He in flesh, our flesh Who made,  
 Our sentence bare, our ransom paid :  
 Where deep for us the spear was dyed,  
 Life's torrent rushing from His side,  
 To wash us in that precious flood,  
 Where mingled Water flowed, and Blood.  
 Fulfilled is all that David told  
 In true prophetic song of old :  
 Amidst the nations God, saith he,  
 Hath reigned and triumphed from the Tree.  
 O Tree of beauty, Tree of light !  
 O Tree with royal purple dight !  
 Elect, on whose triumphal breast  
 Those holy limbs should find their rest :  
 On whose dear arms, so widely flung,  
 The weight of this world's ransom hung ;  
 The price of human kind to pay,  
 And spoil the spoiler of his prey.  
 To Thee, eternal Three in One,  
 Let homage meet by all be done ;  
 Whom by the Cross Thou dost restore,  
 Preserve and govern evermore. Amen.

*Antiphon.*

Our Lord died for us, that we may live in Him ; and putting off the old man, with all his concupiscence, be renewed henceforth in the spirit of our minds.

Ÿ. Behold, dear Saviour, Thou art exalted from the earth.

R. Fulfil Thy Word, and draw all things unto Thyself.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who, by the price of Thy Son's last drop of blood on the Cross, hast won our hearts from this life, and all the riches of it, to the sole pursuit and hope of Thyself in eternity : possess, we beseech Thee, and absolutely dispose of what Thou hast so dearly paid for ; mortifying us to this world, and confirming our courage to fight manfully under the banner of our crucified Jesus ; that we stand the assault of all temptations, and nothing in life or death be able to separate us from Thy love in Him, our glorious Redeemer, Who, with, &c.

*Here, and every other Fast Day, say, still kneeling—*

Ÿ. Lord, have mercy upon us.

R. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Ÿ. Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Our Father, &c.*

Ÿ. Who will give water to our eyes ?

R. And a fountain of tears to our head ?

Ÿ. That we may weep day and night

R. The loss of our time past, and the danger of our time to come.

Ÿ. That we may weep for our many sins ;

R. And humbly confess our grievous offences.

Ÿ. We have sinned with our fathers, we have sinned ;

R. We have done unjustly, we have committed iniquity

Ÿ. We have broken the laws of our Maker ;

R. We have provoked the wrath of our Judge.

- V̄. We have despised the goodness of our God.  
 R. What shall we do, O Thou Preserver of men ?  
 V̄. What shall we do, but appeal from the bar of Thy  
     justice  
 R. To Thy mild and gracious seat of mercy ?  
 V̄. Spare us, O Lord, for Thy mercy sake ;  
 R. Spare the works of Thine own hands.  
 V̄. Spare us, whom Thou hast made for the enjoyment  
     of Thyself.  
 R. Spare us, whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy  
     precious Blood.  
 V̄. Pardon, O Lord, our sins of weakness, and surprise.  
 R. Pardon our sins of wilfulness and malice.  
 V̄. Pardon our relapsing into the sins we have repented.  
 R. Pardon our lying in sins without repentance.  
 V̄. Make us so grieve for our sins that we may hate  
     them ;  
 R. And hate them so that we quite forsake them.  
 V̄. Check our unruly passions with Thy holy fear ;  
 R. And guide our lives in the ways of discipline.  
 V̄. That we may turn to Thee with our whole heart ;  
 R. In fasting, weeping, and mourning.  
 V̄. That we may humble our souls in prayer ;  
 R. And as much as we can, redeem our sins with alms.  
 V̄. That we may root out our sins and vices with con-  
     trary virtues ;  
 R. And bring forth fruits agreeable to repentance.  
 V̄. Hear us, O merciful Lord, when we pray for our-  
     selves.  
 R. Hear us, when we pray for others.  
 V̄. Remember Thy congregation that Thou hast possess  
     from the beginning.  
 R. Defend, and govern, and increase it for ever.  
 V̄. Give to Thy priests the spirit of knowledge ;  
 R. The spirit of holiness, and zeal, and wisdom.

- V. Give to Thy people the spirit of docility ;  
 R. The spirit of obedience, devotion, and charity.  
 V. Reveal Thyself, O Lord, to those who never knew  
 Thee ;  
 R. And bring home those who have gone astray from  
 Thee.  
 V. Preserve, we beseech Thee, our Sovereign, and  
 guide Thou the Council ;  
 R. And bless all the people of this nation.  
 V. Bless us with health, and peace, and plenty ;  
 R. And make us use them with sobriety, gratitude, and  
 charity.  
 V. Reward, O Lord, our kindred, friends, and bene-  
 factors ;  
 R. And forgive our enemies and all that hate us.  
 V. Comfort those that mourn, and are oppressed with  
 their afflictions ;  
 R. Or labour under the burden of a troubled mind.  
 V. Relieve the poor who have none to help them ;  
 R. And defend the cause of the fatherless and widow.  
 V. Strengthen those who languish on the bed of sickness ;  
 R. And those who struggle in the agony of death.  
 V. Have mercy upon all the faithful who go hence in  
 Thy grace.  
 R. Have mercy upon all the world ; convert the un-  
 converted, and bring us all to Thy glory.  
 V. O Lord, hasten Thy kingdom ;  
 R. And let all the kingdoms of the earth become Thy  
 possession.  
 V. Lord, hear our prayer.  
 R. And let our cry come unto Thee.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

- V. Vouchsafe us, we beseech Thee, &c., see page 13.

THE OFFICE FOR SATURDAY  
MATINS.

*To-day we meditate still upon our Lord's meritorious sufferings, and His victory obtained over sin and death, and the power of darkness.*

The *Introduction* to be said as on page 2.

*Invitatory.*

Come, let us adore our victorious Redeemer.

*Psalm.*

Come, all ye powers of my delivered soul, and pay homage to the Prince of Peace, to the Prince of our salvation; cast your unworthy selves at His sacred feet, and renew your vows of following His steps.

*Come, let us adore our victorious Redeemer.*

He triumphed over death in His own Body, and enables us to conquer it in ours; imparting to us His heavenly skill, and provoking our courage with infinite rewards.

*Come, let us adore our victorious Redeemer.*

He changed the corrupted government of the world, and established a new and holy law, that as we were vassals to sin before, we might now become the free subjects of grace.

*Come, let us adore our victorious Redeemer.*

Let us live and die in His blest obedience, and no temptation separate us from Him, Who, if we resist, will make us overcome, and when we have overcome, will crown us with peace.

*Come, let us adore our victorious Redeemer.*

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

Come, let us adore our victorious Redeemer.



*Hymn.*

THE Lamb's high Banquet we await,  
 In snow-white robes of royal state ;  
 And now the Red Sea's channel past,  
 To Christ our Prince we sing at last.

Upon the Altar of the Cross  
 His Body hath redeemed our loss ;  
 And tasting of His roseate Blood,  
 Our life is hid with Him in God.

That Paschal Eve God's arm was bared,  
 The devastating Angel spared :  
 By strength of hand our hosts went free  
 From Pharaoh's ruthless tyranny.

Now Christ, our Paschal Lamb, is slain,  
 The Lamb of God that knows no stain ;  
 The true Oblation offered here,  
 Our own unleavened Bread sincere.

O Thou, from Whom hell's monarch flies !  
 O great, O very Sacrifice !  
 Thy captive people are set free,  
 And endless life restored in Thee :

For Christ, arising from the dead,  
 From conquered hell victorious sped ;  
 And thrust the tyrant down to chains,  
 And Paradise for man regains.

To Thee Who, dead, again dost live,  
 All glory, Lord, Thy people give ;  
 All glory, as is ever meet,  
 To Father and to Paraclete. Amen.

*Antiphon.* When Thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death, Thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.

*Psalm.*

PROSTRATE before Thy tomb, O Lord ! behold, we freely confess our misery ;

And in the lowliest posture of afflicted pilgrims, humbly implore Thy mercy.

Peacefully in the grave Thy holy body reposed, and Thy soul went triumphing to redeem Thy captives.

If we rejoiced for ourselves in Thy sufferings, blest Lord, let us



now rejoice that Thy sufferings are ended.

Now that the fowler's net is broken, and the meek and innocent dove is escaped :

Now that the bitterness is past away, and never possible to return again :

Never again, O dearest Jesu, shall those blest eyes weep, nor Thy holy soul be sorrowful to death ;

Never shall Thy precious life be subject any more to the bloody malice of ambitious hypocrites ;

Never shall Thy innocence any more be exposed to the barbarous fury of an ungrateful multitude ;

But Thou shalt live and reign for ever, and all created nature perpetually adore Thee.

O happy end of well-endured afflictions ! O blessed fruits that spring from the Cross of Jesus !

Look up, my soul, and see thy crucified Lord sit gloriously enthroned at the right hand of His Father.

Behold the ragged purple now turned into a robe of light, and the scornful reed into a royal sceptre.

The wreath of thorns is grown into a sparkling diadem, and all His scars polished into brightness.

His tears are all now changed into joy, and the laughter of His persecutors into sad despair.

Herod long since perished in miserable contempt, and Pilate still trembles with everlasting fears.

The impenitent Jews are scattered over the world, to attest His truth and their own obdurate blindness.

But He Himself is crowned with eternal triumphs, and the souls He has redeemed shall sing His victories for ever.

Live, glorious King of men and angels ; live, happy Conqueror of sin and death.

Our praises shall always attend Thy Cross, and our patience endeavour to bear our own.

Sing, O ye reverend patriarchs and holy prophets ! sing hymns of glory to the great Redeemer.

Sing and rejoice, all ye ancient saints, who so long waited for His gracious appearance.

Sing and rejoice, all ye souls of the righteous, who wait for a blessed resurrection.

Bring forth your best and purest incense, and humbly offer it at the Throne of the Lamb :

The Lamb that was slain from the beginning of the world, by the sprinkling of Whose Blood ye are all saved.

O still sing on the praises of the God of Peace, and bless for ever His victorious mercy,

Since He has changed our grave into a bed of rest, and made death itself but a passage into life.

We will love no more the pleasures of vanity, nor set our hearts on unsatisfying riches,

Since He has opened Paradise again, and purchased for us the Kingdom of Heaven.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* When Thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death, Thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.

*Our Father, &c.*

*Lesson.*

**H**AVE thy thoughts in the precepts of God, and let thy chief business be His commandments.

Deliver him that suffers injury out of the hands of the proud, and be not faint-hearted when thou sittest in judgment.

Be merciful to orphans as a father, and as a husband to their mother; and thou shalt be as the obedient son of the Highest.

He that reproacheth the poor reproacheth his Maker, but he honours Him who pitieth them.

The wicked shall be cast out in his malice, but the just hath hope in his death.

Our Lord will not accept any person against the poor, and will hear the prayer of him that is wronged.

He will not despise the prayer of the fatherless, nor the widow

when she pours forth her complaint.

Do not the tears run down the widow's cheeks, and is not her cry against them that caused them?

But from the cheeks they go up to Heaven, and the Lord who heareth them will not be pleased.

Turn not away thine eyes in anger from the poor, nor give him occasion to curse thee;

For the prayer of him that curseth thee, in the bitterness of his soul, shall be heard.

He that made him shall hear him.

Remember not every wrong of thy neighbour, nor do anything by injurious practice.

The great, the judge, the mighty, are in honour, but there is none greater than he that fears God.

*Responsory.*

Lord, with what admirable wisdom dost Thou govern the world! Thou makest the poor, and appointest them their task of innocent work; Thou makest the rich, and givest them leisure for their better improvement; and both poor and rich to need and help one another.

*O give us hearts to comply with Thy blest design, that every one may strive for the good of all.*

One God created us, one Saviour redeemed us, one Holy Ghost sanctifieth us, that we may all live in love, and unity, and mutual assistance.

*O give us hearts to comply with Thy blest design, that every one may strive for the good of all.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

*O give us hearts to comply with Thy blest design, that every one may strive for the good of all.*

*Antiphon.*

It is finished; Thou hast, O Jesu, overcome, in Thy Body, all the powers of darkness. That hour is past; but Thy soul's eternal bliss remains, and, behold, that of Thy triumphant resurrection approaches.

℣. Be not afraid of those that kill the body.

℞. And after that have no more to do.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who hast submitted Thine only Son, our Saviour Jesus, to expire on the Cross, and descend into the grave, that He might destroy the life of sin, and bury the terrors of death; grant, we beseech Thee, they may never revive or rise again, to tempt or fright us from the ways of virtue, nor shake this sure and fundamental truth which Thy grace has laid in our hearts, that the greatest mischiefs our salvation can cost us here are but momentary, and work above measure exceedingly in us an eternal weight of glory; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i. e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

℣. O Lord, hear our prayers.

℞. And let our supplications come unto Thee.

℣. Bless we our Lord.

℞. Thanks be to God.

℣. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

℞. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

℣. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever. ℞. Amen.

## SATURDAY VESPERS.

*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Hail! Mary, &c.*

✠. O God, make speed to save us.

R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

✠. *Glory be, &c.*

R. *As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* It is decreed for all men once to die, and after death to come to judgment.

*Psalm.*

THIS life indeed is the way we must work, but this alone cannot bring us to an end.

Ere we arrive at our appointed Home, we must be led through the gates of death,

Where we shall be absolutely stripped of all we have, and carry nothing with us but what we are ;

Where we must not only quit the whole world, but leave behind us even a part of ourselves.

Hast thou, my soul, seen some neighbour die, and dost thou remember those circumstances of sorrow ?

We are sure the case ere long will be our own ; and not so sure but it may be so very soon.

Have we ourselves been dangerously sick, and do we remember the thoughts we had then ?

How we resolved to correct our passions, and strive against the vices that so particularly endanger us ?

'Twill come to this again, and no reprieve be found to stay one single minute the hand of death,

*To stay one single minute the hand of death ;*

But he will immediately seize upon us, and bear us away to the region of spirits,

There to be ranged in our proper place, as the course of our life has qualified us here.

Nor is this all, to expire and die, and dwell for a time in a state of separation :

We must expect another day, a day of public accounts, and restitution of all things,

When the Archangel shall sound his trumpet, and proclaim aloud this universal summons :

“ Arise, ye dead, and come to judgment ! arise, and appear before the Throne of God.”

Then shall the little heaps of dust immediately awake, and every soul put on her proper body ;

Immediately all the children of Adam shall be gathered together, from heaven and hell, and every corner of the earth.

There they must stand, and all attend their doom ; but, oh, with how sad and fatal a difference !

The just shall look up with a cheerful confidence, and in their new white robes triumph and sing :

“ Alleluia ! let us rejoice, for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His bride has prepared herself.

“ Let us rejoice ! for the kingdom of the world is made our Lord’s and His Christ’s ; and He shall reign for ever and ever.

“ Let us rejoice ! for now our Redeemer is nigh ; behold, He comes quickly, and His reward is with Him.

“ Come, come, Lord Jesu ! Thou long desire of our hearts ! come quickly, Thou full delight of our souls !

“ Come, and declare to all the

world Thy glory ! come, and reward before all the world Thy servants !”

Lo ! where He comes aloft in power and majesty, attended with a train of innumerable angels.

Behold, where He sits enthroned on the wings of the cherubim, and takes at once a view of all mankind.

Soon He commands His angels to sever His sheep, and gather them together on His right hand.

First, then, to them He turns His glorious face, and shines upon them with these ravishing words :

Come, ye blessed of My Father, possess the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world.

O the joys their souls shall feel when those heavenly words shall sound in their ears !

Joys which the wit of man cannot conceive ! joys that the tongues of angels cannot express !

Let it suffice, themselves shall taste their own felicity, and feed on its sweetness for evermore.

But, oh, with what dejected eyes and trembling hearts shall the wicked stand expecting their Judge !

What shall they do when, where’er they look, their eye can meet with nothing but despair ?

Above, the offended Judge, ready to condemn them ; below, the bottomless pit gaping to receive them ;

Within, the worms of conscience gnawing their bowels, and round about all the world in flames.

What shall they do when the terrible voice shall strike them suddenly down to the bottom of hell:

Go, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the Devil and his angels.

The day of man is past, when sinners did as they pleased, and God seemed to hold His peace.

It is now the day of God, when His wrath shall speak in thunder, and sinners suffer what their wickedness deserves.

Then shall they sink immediately into the pit of sorrows, and dwell in darkness and torments for ever;

Whilst the just shall go up in joy and triumph, and reign with our Lord in His kingdom for ever and ever.

Thus shall the whole creation be finally dispersed, and mercy and justice divide the world.

O my soul! who now art here below, and redest these dreadful truths as things afar off,

Know thou shalt then be present, and see them with thine

*Antiphon.* It is decreed for all men once to die, and after death to come to judgment.

*Lesson.* Titus ii.

**B**UT speak thou the things that become sound doctrine, that the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, charity, and patience.

The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;

eyes, and be thyself concerned for all eternity.

Know, as thou livest thou art like to die; and as thou diest thou art sure to be judged.

Think what a sad condition it will be to find thyself on the wrong hand;

Think what thou then wouldst give to have repented in time; think what thou wouldst give for a little time to repent.

Watch therefore now, and continually pray, for we know not the hour when the Son of Man will come.

O Son of God and Man! Who camest in mercy to save us, bring the same mercy with Thee when Thou comest to judge us.

Meanwhile assist us with Thy heavenly grace to stand perpetually with our accounts prepared,

That we may die in the peace of God, and of His holy Church; and go to live with Him and His blessed Saints for ever.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children:

To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient unto their own husbands, that the Word of God be not blasphemed.

Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded, in all things



shewing thyself a pattern of good works; in doctrine shewing incorruptness, with gravity and sincerity.

Exhort servants to be obedient to their own masters, and to

please them well in all things; not answering again, not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.

*Hymn.*

O WHAT their joy and their glory must be,  
Those endless Sabbaths the blessed ones see!  
Crown for the valiant, to weary ones rest;  
God shall be all, and in all ever blest.

What are the Monarch, His Court and His Throne,  
What are the peace and the joy that they own?  
Tell us, ye blest ones, that in it have share,  
If what ye feel ye can fully declare.

Truly "Jerusalem," name we that shore,  
"Vision of peace" that brings joy evermore!  
Wish and fulfilment can sever'd be ne'er,  
Nor the thing prayed for come short of the prayer.

We, where no trouble distraction can bring,  
Safely the anthems of Zion shall sing;  
While for Thy grace, Lord, their voices of praise  
Thy blessed people shall evermore raise.

There dawns no Sabbath—no Sabbath is o'er—  
Those Sabbath-keepers have one, and no more;  
One and unending is that triumph song  
Which to the angels and us shall belong.

Now, in the meanwhile, with hearts raised on high,  
We for that country must yearn and must sigh;  
Seeking Jerusalem, dear native land,  
Through our long exile on Babylon's strand.

Low before Him with our praises we fall,  
Of Whom, and in Whom, and through Whom are all:  
Of Whom the Father, and in Whom the Son,  
Through Whom the Spirit, with These ever One. Amen.

*Antiphon.*

We have here no abiding city, but we seek Jerusalem above, the Eternal Mansion of bliss.

Y. Jesus came down to give us a glimpse of it;  
R. And made His own life the chart to direct us to it.

*Prayer.*

O merciful God, Whose Providence disparages with shortness and crossness all the improvements of this world, that they may become less tempting to us, and take less hold on our hearts; grant us grace, we beseech Thee, wisely to discern and heartily praise Thee for this most beneficent alloy of their natures; and since we cannot attain Thee, the Heaven of Heavens, if we do not fix ourselves entirely on Thee, nor yet be raised to this if we are, or may be, satisfied with anything besides Thy glorious Self, make us check and overcome the repinings of flesh and blood with juster adorations of Thy infinite mercy, for qualifying so fitly this womb of our souls that, by its own uneasiness, it more easily disposes of them for a happy birth into Thy blessed Eternity; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

Ÿ. Vouchsafe us, we beseech Thee, &c., *see page 13.*

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## The Office of our Blessed Saviour.

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THIS Office is to be said on all the Feasts of our Saviour, which are as follows:—All Sundays in Advent, Christmas Day, Circumcision, Epiphany, Purification, the Annunciation, Passion Sunday, Palm Sunday and Finding of the Holy Cross, Ascension. They are noted in the Proper of Festivals, where you will find a particular Invitatory, which is to be recited with the Psalm, and three particular Antiphons, either of which may be said before the Psalm of Matins and Vespers; also an Antiphon for the *Magnificat*, with a Versicle and Response and Prayer.

Then those placed in the Office are omitted, they being provided only for those who find the particular ones too troublesome, and such as choose to say our Saviour's Office, sometimes on days to which it is not appropriated.

All the rest, Psalm, Lesson, Hymn, say as in the Office of our Saviour.

OFFICE OF OUR BLESSED SAVIOUR.  
MATINS.

The *Introduction* to be said as on page 2.

*Invitatory.*

To-day let us adore our God that redeemed us.

*Psalm.*

Bring to our Lord, all ye His servants, bring to our Lord the sacrifice of praise; bring to our Lord, all ye nations of the earth, bring hymns of glory to His great Name.

*To-day let us adore our God that redeemed us.*

He is our God, and we His people, created by His goodness to be happy for ever; He is our Redeemer, and we His purchase, restored by His death to a better eternity.

*To-day let us adore our God that redeemed us.*

Let us learn of Him, and He will teach us His ways; let us follow Him, and we shall walk in the light, for the Law and its types were given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

*To-day let us adore our God that redeemed us.*

Come, let us ascend to the house of our Lord, and celebrate this day with a holy joy, imploring His mercies for all we need, and blessing His bounty for all we have.

*To-day let us adore our God that redeemed us.*

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

To-day let us adore our God that redeemed us.

*Hymn.*

FROM lands that see the sun arise,  
 To earth's remotest boundaries,  
 The Virgin-born to-day we sing,  
 The Son of Mary, Christ the King.  
 Blest Author of this earthly frame,  
 To take a servant's form He came;  
 That liberating flesh by flesh,  
 Whom He had made might live afresh.

In that chaste parent's holy womb  
 Celestial grace hath found its home;  
 And she, as earthly bride unknown,  
 Yet calls that Offspring blest her own.

The mansion of the modest breast  
 Becomes a shrine where God shall rest;  
 The pure and undefiled one  
 Conceived in her womb the Son.

That Son, that Royal Son she bore,  
 Whom Gabriel's voice had told afore;  
 Whom in His Mother yet concealed,  
 The Infant Baptist had revealed.

The manger and the straw He bore—  
 The cradle did He not abhor;  
 By milk in infant portions fed,  
 Who gives e'en fowls their daily bread.

The heavenly chorus filled the sky,  
 The angels sang to God on high;  
 What time to shepherds, watching lone,  
 They made Creation's Shepherd known.

For that Thine Advent glory be,  
 O Jesu, Virgin-born, to Thee!  
 With Father and with Holy Ghost,  
 From men and from the heavenly host. Amen.

*Antiphon.* Blessed be the mercy of our God, Who has left no way untried that could possibly recover us.

*Psalm.*

COME now, and hear, ye that  
 fear the Lord, and I will  
 tell you what He hath done for  
 my soul.

Hear, and I will tell you what  
 He hath done for yours also, and

the wonders of His bounty to-  
 wards all the world.

When we lay asleep in the  
 shades of darkness, of nothing,  
 His mighty hand awaked us into  
 being.

He printed on our souls His own similitude, and promised to our obedience His own felicity ;

Creating a whole world to serve us here, and providing a Heaven to glorify us hereafter.

Thus didst Thou favour us, O infinite Goodness ! but we, what return did we make unto Thee ?

Blush, O my soul, for shame at so strange a weakness, and weep for grief at so extreme an ingratitude.

We childishly preferred a trivial apple before the law of our God and the safety of our lives.

We fondly embraced a little present satisfaction before the pleasures of Paradise and the eternity of Heaven.

Behold the unhappy source of all our miseries, which still increased its streams as they went further on ;

Until at length there had been an end of man, a sad and fatal end of the whole world,

Had not our wise Creator foreseen the danger, and in time prevented the extremity of ruin.

When all was reduced to this desperate state, and no imaginable hope left to recover us ;

Behold, the Eternal Wisdom finds a strange expedient, the best and highest instance of Almighty love :

Himself He resolves to clothe with our flesh, and come down among us and die to redeem us.

He delivered Himself up unto death, and was numbered with the wicked ; He bore the sins of

many, and prayed for His persecutors.

All we like sheep have gone astray ; we have turned every one to his own way, and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities ; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and with His stripes we are healed.

O blessed Jesu ! Who didst take upon Thee our infirmities, to bestow on us Thine own perfections,

Heal us by the mystery of Thy holy Incarnation, and the meekness of Thy humble Birth :

Heal us by the precious Blood of Thy Circumcision, and the sweet and ever blessed Name of Jesus :

Heal us by Thy gracious manifestation to the Gentiles, and the powerful influence of all Thy miracles :

Heal us by the exemplary obedience of Thy Presentation, and the sovereign balsam of Thy Passion :

Heal us by the joys of Thy victorious Resurrection, and the triumph of Thy glorious Ascension :

Heal us by the memory of all Thy blessings ; heal us by the memory of this day's mercy :

Heal us, Thou great Physician of our souls ; and grant that we may sin no more, lest a worse thing befall us.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* Blessed be the mercy of our God, Who has left no way untried that could possibly recover us.

*Our Father, &c.*

*Lesson.* Isaiah xi. 1-4, and 9, 10.

AND there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots.

And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord;

And shall make Him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord; and He shall not judge after the sight of His eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of His ears:

But with righteousness shall He judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth.

They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek, and His rest shall be glorious.

*Responsory.*

Thus, Holy Jesus! did the ancient prophets foretel Thy perfections, and the blessed changes Thy doctrine should produce: the cruelty of the crowd should be softened into meekness, and the innocency of the weak be protected by the strong, and peace and charity flourish over the world.

*This was Thy wise and gracious design, to make us happy by making us holy.*

Thou hast planted the seeds of all these effects: O give the increase, that we may gather the fruits: defend the good, and rebuke the wicked, and fill the earth with Thy knowledge, that all discord and animosity may utterly cease, and justice and equity govern our lives.

*This was Thy wise and gracious design, to make us happy by making us holy.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

*This was Thy wise and gracious design, to make us happy by making us holy.*

*Te Deum Laudamus.*

We praise Thee, &c. (*To be omitted in Advent and Lent.*)

*Antiphon.*

Blessed be Thy holy Name, O glorious Son of God !  
and blessed be Thy mercy for ever.

Thou hast perfectly fulfilled all that Thy prophets fore-  
told, and infinitely transcended all the wonders they admired.  
Thou hast done enough to convince us into faith, and  
suffered abundantly to inflame us with Thy love.

Ÿ. Blessed be Thy glorious Name, O Thou Son of  
God !

R. And blessed be Thy mercy for ever. *Alleluia.*

*Prayer.*

Most gracious God, Who so lovedst the world that  
Thou gavest Thyself to redeem it, and didst humbly  
take upon Thee our nature that Thou mightest familiarly  
teach us the truth of our salvation; invincibly fortify us  
against all persecutions, and efficaciously draw us after Thee  
into Thine own Kingdom, by Thy holy life, precious death,  
and glorious resurrection. Grant, we beseech Thee, that  
we may so meditate upon these infinite mercies, and so fill  
our souls with the memory of this love, that we may live  
in Thy obedience, die in Thy favour, and rise again to  
rejoice with Thee for ever in Thy glory; Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy,  
parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

Ÿ. O Lord, hear our prayers.

R. And let our supplications come unto Thee.

Ÿ. Bless we our Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Ÿ. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the  
mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

Ÿ. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and  
Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for  
ever.

R. Amen.

OFFICE OF OUR BLESSED SAVIOUR.  
 VESPERS.

*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Hail! Mary, &c.*

*V̄. O God, make speed to save us.*

*R. O Lord, make haste to help us.*

*V̄. Glory be, &c.*

*R. As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* Thou art, O Lord, the true Light of the world; they who follow Thee walk not in darkness.

*Psalm.*

**R**ISE, holy Spouse of the Son of God! rise, and put on thy robes of joy.

Rise, shine forth, for thy glory is come, and the splendour of our Lord strikes bright upon thee.

To thee shall be given the keys of Heaven, and thou shalt shut and open those eternal doors.

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but not a tittle of His Word shall be disappointed for ever.

Many of the sacred prophecies are already fulfilled, abundantly enough to assure us of the rest.

Already a Virgin hath brought forth a Son, and given Him the gracious Name of Jesus.

The kings of the East have been led to Him by a star, and offered Him gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

His holy parents have presented Him in the Temple, and the devout Simeon was overjoyed to see Him.

In His tender infancy he fled into Egypt, and the idols fell down at the presence of a child.

He passed His private life in peace and meekness, and taught a contradicting people in patience and humility.

He confirmed His doctrine with innumerable miracles, and defended the truth with the last drop of His blood.



He rose again victoriously from the grave, and ascended in triumph to the right hand of the Father.

And there, O glorious Jesu ! mayest Thou sit and reign till all Thy enemies become Thy footstool.

We know, O Lord, Thy ways are in the deep abyss, and we humbly adore Thy secret counsels.

Only we cannot think of their lamentable condition without pitying their misery, and imploring Thy mercy.

Some have not yet so much as heard of Thee, and others who have heard, refuse to entertain Thee.

Some who have once acknowledged Thee have fallen quite away, and others reject what they list, and obey by halves.

Many of those who even rightly believe abuse their holy faith by a wicked life.

Look down, O Lord, and behold from Heaven; behold from the habitation of Thy holiness.

Hast Thou not given Thy disciples express commission to go into all the world, and preach to every creature ?

Visit, O Lord, Thine own house first, and thoroughly redress what Thou findest amiss.

Make our lives holy, as Thou hast made our faith, and perfectly unite us in the bonds of love.

Kindle in the hearts of kings,

and the great ones of the world, an heroic spirit to advance Thy glory.

Inflame the hearts of the prelates and priests of Thy Church with a generous zeal of conversion of souls.

Prepare, O Lord, the hearts of those that are in error, and make them willing to receive the truth.

So shall the glory of God be everywhere revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

Lord, e'er I take my leave of this holy day, which Thy Church has sanctified in honour of Thy memory,

Let me think on those joys above: *We shall hereafter be like the angels in Heaven.*

And what, O Lord, are these blessed angels but spirits that know, and love, and delight for ever ?

Such, O my soul, we shall be, and that sweet life we shall lead; we shall be and live like the angels in Heaven.

No ignorance shall darken, nor error deceive us; we shall be like the angels in Heaven.

No cares shall perplex us, nor crosses afflict us; we shall be like the angels in Heaven.

Our joys shall be full, and pure, and everlasting; we shall be like the angels in Heaven.

Cheer thee, and raise thy hopes yet gloriously higher; we shall be like Himself, for we shall see Him as He is.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*



*Antiphon.* Thou art, O Lord, the true Light of the world; they who follow Thee walk not in darkness.

*Lesson.* Titus ii. 11.

FOR the grace of God, that bringeth salvation, hath appeared to all men;

Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should lively soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world;

Looking for that blessed hope,

and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

*Hymn.*

JESU, the Father's only Son,  
Whose death for all redemption won,  
Before the worlds, of God Most High,  
Begotten all ineffably:

The Father's light and splendour Thou,  
Their endless hope to Thee that bow;  
Accept the prayers and praise to-day  
That through the world Thy servants pay.

Salvation's Author, call to mind,  
Thou took'st the form of human kind,  
When of the Virgin undefiled  
Thou in man's flesh becam'st a child.

Thus testifies the present day,  
Through every year, in long array,  
That Thou, Salvation's source alone,  
Proceeded'st from the Father's Throne;

Whence sky, and stars, and sea's abyss,  
And earth, and all that therein is,  
Shall still, with laud and carol meet,  
The Author of Thine Advent greet:

And we who, by Thy precious Blood  
From sin redeemed, are marked for God,  
On this, the day that saw Thy birth,  
Sing the new song of ransomed earth.

For that Thine Advent glory be,  
 O Jesu, Virgin-born, to Thee!  
 With Father, and with Holy Ghost,  
 From men and from the heavenly host. Amen.

*Antiphon.*

Come, all ye nations of the earth, whom the mercy of our Lord has so dearly redeemed; come, and in honour of the Divine Son, sing the Canticle of the Blessed Mother.  
*Alleluia!*

*Magnificat.*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, &c., *see page 12.*

*Antiphon.*

Come, all ye nations of the earth, whom the mercy of our Lord has so dearly redeemed; come, and in honour of the Divine Son, sing the Canticle of the Blessed Mother.  
*Alleluia!*

Ÿ. Thou art, O God, the free bestower of all we have.

R. Thou art the faithful promiser of all we expect.

*Prayer.*

O holy and ever-blessed Jesu, Who, being the Eternal Son of God, and Most High in the glory of God the Father, vouchsafedst for us sinners to be born of an humble Virgin, to be subject to the weakness of a little child, to grow up in a life of privacy and labour, to declare Thyself at last the Redeemer of the world, by establishing a perfect law of grace, and confirming it with innumerable miracles, and suffering for it intolerable persecutions, even to death itself: work in us, we humbly beseech Thee, the happy effects of all these mercies, that believing in Thee we may imitate Thy life, and obeying Thy commands may enjoy Thy promises; Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

Y<sup>r</sup>. Vouchsafe us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, a quiet night and a happy end.

R. Amen.

Y<sup>r</sup>. Lord, have mercy upon us.

R. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Y<sup>r</sup>. Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Our Father, &c.*

Y<sup>r</sup>. And lead us not into temptation.

R. But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Y<sup>r</sup>. King of Kings, extinguish in us the lusts of the flesh.

R. And kindle the fire of Thy love.

Y<sup>r</sup>. Saviour of the world, remove far from us the wrath of bitterness.

R. And grant to us the shield of Thy patience.

Y<sup>r</sup>. Redeemer of mankind, deliver us from pride.

R. And grant us the treasure of Thy humility.

Y<sup>r</sup>. O Lord, hear our prayer.

R. And let our crying come unto Thee.

*Prayer.*

Visit, we beseech Thee, O Lord, this habitation, and drive far away all snares of the enemy; let Thy holy angels dwell therein to preserve us in peace, and Thy blessing be upon us for ever; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

Y<sup>r</sup>. O Lord, hear our prayer.

R. And let our cry come unto Thee.

Y<sup>r</sup>. Bless we our Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Ÿ. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

Ÿ. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever.

R. Amen.

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## The Office of the Holy Ghost.

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THIS Office is to be said on Whit Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, and (omitting *Te Deum* and *Magnificat*) on every first Wednesday of the month, unless it be a Holy Day, and then it should be postponed to the next convenient day.

OFFICE OF THE HOLY GHOST.  
MATINS.

The *Introduction* to be said as on page 2.

*Invitatory.*

Come, let us adore our God that sanctifies us.

*Psalm.*

Come, let us humbly first implore His grace, to make us worthy to adore the Sanctifier, Who, from the Father and the Son eternally proceeds, and with the Father and the Son is equally glorified.

*Come, let us adore our God that sanctifies us.*

He infuses into us the breath of life, and brings us forth into our second birth—a birth that makes us heirs of heaven, and gives us a title to everlasting happiness.

*Come, let us adore our God that sanctifies us.*

Let us prepare our understandings to assent to His truths, and our wills to follow His Divine inspirations; let us fill our memories with His innumerable mercies, and our whole souls with the glory of His attributes.

*Come, let us adore our God that sanctifies us.*

Let us confidently address to Him our petitions, Who promises to help the infirmity of our prayers; let us not doubt the bounty of His goodness, but hope that He will grant what Himself inspires us to ask.

*Come, let us adore our God that sanctifies us.*

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

To-day let us adore our God that sanctifies us.

*Hymn.*

COME, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire !  
 And lighten with celestial fire :  
 Thou the Anointing Spirit art,  
 Who dost Thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed Unction from above  
 Is comfort, life, and fire of love :  
 Enable with perpetual light  
 The dulness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soiled face  
 With the abundance of Thy grace :  
 Keep far our foes, give peace at home—  
 Where Thou art guide no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
 And Thee of Both, to be but One ;  
 That through the ages all along  
 This may be our endless song :

Praise to Thy eternal merit,  
 Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Antiphon.* In those days, saith our Lord, I will pour out  
 My Spirit upon all flesh. *Alleluia ! Alleluia !*

*Psalm.*

BLESSED for ever be Thy  
 Name, O Holy Spirit ! and  
 blessed be the bounty of Thy  
 goodness.

When the eternal Father, by  
 creating the world, had declared  
 Himself and His almighty power :

When the increated Word, by  
 redeeming mankind, had revealed  
 Himself and His infinite wisdom :

When now there remained but  
 one seal more to be opened of  
 the Book of Divine Mysteries :

Behold, a strange condescend-  
 ence to our weak nature, the In-  
 visible Spirit visibly appears.

He descends from heaven in

the shape of a dove, and gently  
 lights on the Prince of Peace.

Again He descends in the like-  
 ness of fire, and miraculously sits  
 upon the heads of the disciples.

O blessed and admirable  
 Teacher ! Who can instruct  
 like the Spirit of God ?

He took a poor shepherd from  
 following the flock, and imme-  
 diately raised him to the degree  
 of a Prophet.

He by one lesson perfected the  
 disciples, and polished rude fisher-  
 men into eloquent preachers.

He touched the heart of a per-  
 secuting Pharisee, and instantly



changed him into a glorious Apostle.

All this Thou hast done, O infinite Goodness! and all we do is wrought in us by Thee.

By Thee we are regenerated at first in our baptism; by Thee confirmed in the imposition of hands.

By Thee we are healed in the sacrament of penance; by Thee prepared for that Banquet of the Bread of Angels.

By Thee Thy choicer servants are consecrated into priests; by Thee our marriages are sanctified into blessings.

By Thee our souls are comforted on our beds of sickness; and by Thy holy Unction all our life is governed.

Such were the fervours of those happy times: and O how happy were our times had we those fervours!

But ours are become miserable by schisms, and heresies, and the darkness that covers a great part of the earth.

Ours are become miserable by the unfruitful lives and scandalous examples of too many Christians.

Too many, alas! yet even the gates of hell can never prevail against the power of God.

Still the same Spirit governs the world, and keeps alive the same primitive fire.

Still there are hearts full of the Holy Ghost, full of that ravishing wine of Divine love.

Still there are souls who renounce all they have, and take up their Cross and follow our Lord.

Still there are fiery tongues

kindled by the Breath of Heaven, who carry their sacred flames into every nation.

Still the Apostolic Church is true to her name, and sends abroad her burning and her shining lights.

Still the Almighty Goodness is true to His Church, and conserves it one, holy, and universal.

O keep us, Blessed Spirit! in this Thy fold of grace; and bring the whole world into one flock;

That all may be of the same mind here, and all enjoy the same happiness hereafter.

O that we had the tongues of saints and angels! O that we had Thine own miraculous tongues!

Still all our praises would be poor and narrow; still infinitely less than Thy infinite perfections.

Praise the Eternal Spirit, O thou Queen of Saints! by whom the world's Redeemer was conceived in thy womb:

By Whom thou wert made the Mother of the Son of God; so high a favour to thee, and so happy to us.

Praise Him, all ye choirs of rejoicing angels, Whose early grace confirmed you in glory.

Praise Him, ye reverend patriarchs, whose ways He governed, and by particular providence led you to felicity.

Praise Him, ye ancient prophets, whose souls He inspired to teach His chosen people the will of heaven.

Praise Him, ye glorious Apostles, whose persons He empowered to be ambassadors of peace betwixt heaven and earth

Praise Him, ye generous martyrs, whose spirits He encouraged, and gave you victory over the terrors of death.

Praise Him, ye blessed confessors, whose lives He sanctified, and gave you victory over the world and yourselves.

Praise Him, ye holy virgins, whose souls He espoused, and consecrated your chaste bodies into temples for Himself.

Praise Him, ye faithful departed, whose hope He sustains, and will at last bring you to full fruition.

Praise Him, all ye elect in your several happy states; bless Him, and magnify Him for ever.

Praise Him in the power and freedom of His grace; praise Him in the greatness and eternity of His glory.

Praise Him, O my soul, for His mercies to thee; praise Him for His goodness to all the world.

Praise Him on thy choicest instrument, that of thy heart; praise Him in thy best words, those of the Church.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was &c.*

*Antiphon.* In those days, saith our Lord, I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Lesson.* S. John xiv. 12.

VERILY, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth in Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do, because I go unto My Father.

And whatsoever ye shall ask in My Name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

If ye shall ask anything in My Name, I will do it.

If ye love Me, keep My commandments.

And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever;

The Spirit of Truth, Whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him, for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

*Responsory.*

Blessed be Thy merciful providence, O Jesu! Who, when Thou hadst finished Thy great work on earth, ascendest into heaven, to draw up our minds even thither after Thee. *Alleluia!*

*That where our happiness is, there might our hearts be also.*

Blessed be Thy infinite goodness, O dear Redeemer ! Who, when Thou hadst taught us the words of eternal life, sentest down the Holy Ghost to make us observe them, and to raise up our affections to that glorious Kingdom whither Thou art gone before us. *Alleluia !*

*That where our happiness is, there might our hearts be also.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

*That where our happiness is, there might our hearts be also.*

*Te Deum Laudamus.*

We praise Thee, &c. (*To be omitted in Advent and Lent.*)

*Antiphon.*

Come, Holy Spirit, the free disposer of all graces, visit the hearts of Thy faithful servants, and replenish them with Thy sacred inspirations ; illuminate our understandings, and inflame our affections, and sanctify all the faculties of our souls ; that we know, and love, and constantly do the things that belong to our peace, our everlasting peace. *Alleluia ! Alleluia !*

℣. Our departing Lord promised He would not leave us comfortless.

℞. Holy Comforter, shew Thou suppliest His place to us.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who miraculously sentest the Holy Ghost to supply the absence of Thy Son, and comfort His disheartened followers, and instruct them in all things necessary to their great work, the conversion of the world ; grant, we beseech Thee, that our devout commemorating those fiery tongues which sate upon each of their heads, and produced such glorious effects, may increase the fervour of our hearts, to continue, and attest by all fruits of grace the same Spirit still abiding in us ; through our Lord Jesus

Christ, Who with Thee, in the unity of the same Blessed Spirit, liveth and reigneth, One God, world without end. Amen.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., and of any society you may belong to.*

Y. O Lord, hear our prayer.

R. And let our supplication come unto Thee.

Y. Bless we our Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Y. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

Y. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever.

R. Amen.

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## OFFICE OF THE HOLY GHOST.

## VESPERS.

*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Hail! Mary, &c.*

✠. O God, make speed to save us.

R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

✠. *Glory be, &c.*

R. *As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* Quicken us by Thy grace, O Holy Spirit! that we may thoroughly mortify the works of the flesh.

*Psalm.*

COME, let us now again prepare our hearts, and humbly offer this our evening sacrifice.

Let us remember our God is a pure Spirit, and delights to dwell in a clean tabernacle.

He will not enter a soul that is subject to sin, nor stay where He finds His grace neglected.

But we, alas! are hot and cold by turns, and, which is worse, our coldness lasts the longer.

Some few half-hours we spend in prayer, and many whole days in idleness and vanity.

Sometimes we bestow a little on the poor, and often throw away a great deal on our passions.

Sometimes we deny and mortify ourselves, but far more often obey our sensual appetites.

Thus we confess to Thee, O Lord our God! Who perfectly seest every corner of our hearts.

Thus we confess to Thee, not that Thou mayest know us, but that we may know ourselves, and that Thou mayest cure us.

Cure us, O Thou Great Physician of souls! cure us of all our sinful distempers.

Cure us of this aguish intermitting piety, and fix it into an even and a constant holiness.

Our own infirmities are too strong for us, and our evil customs prevail against us.

Every day we resolve to amend, and every day we break our resolutions.

Have mercy on us, O God of infinite compassion! have mercy upon us, O Thou Comforter of afflicted minds!

Have mercy upon us, and pardon what is past; and have mercy upon us, and guide us in the days to come.

Give us a right spirit to guide our intentions, that we may aim directly at our true end.

Give us a holy spirit to sanctify our affections, that what we rightly design we may piously pursue.

Give us an heroic spirit to confirm our hearts, that what we piously endeavour we may courageously achieve.

Deliver us, O Lord, from what Thou knowest is against us! deliver us from what we know ourselves will subdue us.

Deliver us from the spirit of profaneness and infidelity, from the spirit of error, and schism, and heresy.

Deliver us from resisting lawful authority, for therein we resist Thee our God.

Deliver us from all schismatical rending the peace of the Church, and thereby destroying ourselves.

O Thou, Who never deniest Thy favours except we first deny our obedience:

Thou Who art often near us when we are far from Thee, often ready to grant when we are unmindful to ask:

Refuse not, O Lord, to hear us now we call upon Thee, and make us still hear Thee when Thou callest to us.

But, above all, suffer us not, O Thou Blessed and Holy Spirit! to be guilty of the unpardonable sin against Thyself.

Suffer us not obstinately to persist in any known wickedness, nor maliciously impugn any known truth.

Suffer us not to die in our sins without repentance, but, oh, have mercy upon us in that solemn hour!

Have mercy upon us, and govern us in our life; have mercy upon us, and save us at our death.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* Quicken us by Thy grace, O Holy Spirit! that we may thoroughly mortify the works of the flesh.

*Lesson.* Gal. v. 19.

NOW the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness;

Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred,

variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies;

Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like; of the which I tell you before, as I

have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith ;

Meekness, temperance ; against such there is no law.

If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

*Hymn.*

COME, Thou Holy Paraclete,  
And from Thy Celestial seat  
Send Thy light and brilliancy :  
Father of the poor, draw near ;  
Giver of all gifts, be here :  
Come, the soul's true radiancy.

Come, of Comforters the best,  
Of the soul the sweetest guest,  
Come in toil refreshingly :  
Thou in labour rest most sweet,  
Thou art shelter from the heat,  
Comfort in adversity.

O Thou Light, most pure and blest !  
Shine within the inmost breast  
Of Thy faithful company :  
Where Thou art not, man hath nought ;  
Every holy deed and thought  
Comes from Thy Divinity.

What is soilèd, make Thou pure ;  
What is wounded, work its cure ;  
What is parchèd, fructify :  
What is rigid, gently bend ;  
What is frozen, warmly tend ;  
Strengthen what goes erringly.

Fill Thy faithful, who confide  
In Thy power to guard and guide,  
With Thy sevenfold Mystery :  
Here Thy grace and virtue send,  
Grant salvation in the end,  
And in Heaven felicity. Amen



*Antiphon.*

Blessed be Thy Name, O Holy Spirit of God, Who dividest Thy gifts to everyone as Thou pleasest, and workest all in all. In Thee our sorrows have a Comforter to allay them, and our sins an Advocate to plead for them; in Thee our ignorances have a Guide to direct them, and our frailties a Confirmer to strengthen them; and in all our wants a God to relieve them. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Magnificat.*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, &c., *see page 12.*

*Antiphon.*

Blessed be Thy Name, O Holy Spirit of God, Who dividest Thy gifts to everyone as Thou pleasest, and workest all in all. In Thee our sorrows have a Comforter to allay them, and our sins an Advocate to plead for them; in Thee our ignorances have a Guide to direct them, and our frailties a Confirmer to strengthen them; and in all our wants a God to relieve them. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*V.* By Thy precious fruits Thou art surely known.

*R.* Controlling all the manifest works of the flesh.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who by Thy Holy Spirit didst at first establish a Church, and, sanctifying it by the same Spirit, dost still preserve and govern it; hear, we beseech Thee, the prayers of Thy servants, and mercifully grant us the perpetual assistance of Thy grace, that we may never be deceived by any false spirit, nor overcome by the vicious suggestions of flesh and blood, but in all our doubts be directed in the ways of truth, and in all our actions guided by Thy Holy Spirit; Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

*V.* Vouchsafe us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, a quiet night and a happy end.

*R.* Amen.

Ÿ. Lord, have mercy upon us.

R. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Ÿ. Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Our Father, &c.*

Ÿ. And lead us not into temptation.

R. But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Ÿ. O Eternal Light, shine into my soul.

R. And prepare it for the benefit of Thy presence.

Ÿ. Scatter Thou the people that delight in war.

R. And restrain them by Thy power.

Ÿ. Show, we beseech Thee, Thy might, and glorify the strength of Thy right hand.

R. For there is no other hope or refuge for us, save only in Thee, O Lord our God.

Ÿ. O Lord, hear our prayer.

R. And let our crying come unto Thee.

*Prayer.*

Visit, we beseech Thee, O Lord, this habitation, and drive far away all snares of the enemy: let Thy holy angels dwell therein to preserve us in peace, and Thy blessing be upon us for ever; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

Ÿ. O Lord, hear our prayer.

R. And let our cry come unto Thee.

Ÿ. Bless we our Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Ÿ. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

Ÿ. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever.

R. Amen.

## The Office of the Blessed Virgin.

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THIS Office is to be said on the Feasts of the Blessed Virgin: Purification, Annunciation, Visitation, Assumption, Nativity, Presentation, Conception. In saying this Office the same method is to be observed as in that for our Saviour.

OFFICE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN.  
MATINS.

The *Introduction* to be said as on page 2.

*Invitatory.*

Hail! Mary, full of grace; our Lord is with thee.

*Psalm.*

Hail! Virgin, Mother of the world's Redeemer, and glorious Queen of Saints and Angels; may all the nations of the earth confess thy greatness, and all the choirs of Heaven sing praises to thy name.

*Hail! Mary, full of grace; our Lord is with thee.*

Hail! Mary, full of grace; who by that holy title art far more honoured than by all thy privileges; while thy soul was replenished with the love of God, and by that love made fit to enjoy Him.

*Hail! Mary, full of grace; our Lord is with thee.*

Our Lord, the Eternal Son of the Father, second Person in the sacred Trinity, chose thee out among all the daughters of men, to advance thee to the dignity of Mother of God.

*Hail! Mary, full of grace; our Lord is with thee.*

With thee, while here thou livedst below on our earth, to protect and sanctify thee by His special grace; with thee, while now thou shinest in His Heaven, to be Himself thy everlasting joy.

*Hail! Mary, full of grace; our Lord is with thee.*

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

Hail! Mary, full of grace; our Lord is with thee.

*Hymn.*

JESU, the Virgin's Crown, do Thou  
 Accept us, as in prayer we bow :  
 Born of that Virgin, whom alone  
 The Mother and the Maid we own.

Amongst the lilies thou dost feed,  
 With virgin choirs accompanied ;  
 With glory decked, the spotless brides,  
 Whose bridal gifts Thy love provides.

They, wheresoe'er Thy footsteps bend,  
 With hymns and praises still attend ;  
 In blessed troops they follow Thee,  
 With dance, and song, and melody.

We pray Thee, therefore, to bestow,  
 Upon our senses here below  
 Thy grace ; that so we may endure  
 From taint of all corruption pure.

All laud to God the Father be !  
 All laud, Eternal Son, to Thee !  
 All laud, as is for ever meet,  
 To God the Holy Paraclete ! Amen.

*Antiphon.* As by a woman came sin and death, so by the fruit of a woman came grace and life.

*Psalm.*

PRAISE our Lord, all ye  
 nations of the earth ; praise  
 Him for the mercies vouchsafed  
 His Blessed Mother.

He that is mighty hath done  
 great things for her, and holy is  
 His Name.

He sanctified her with an early  
 grace, a grace which found her  
 out in her mother's womb ;

And there prepared and began  
 to build a pure ark for the living  
 God.

He took care of her infancy  
 and youth, and made her to

bring forth fruit both in per-  
 fection and abundance ;

That when the angel first  
 appeared, he found her already  
 full of grace ;

Fit to be overshadowed by the  
 power of the Most High ; fit of  
 the handmaid to become the  
 Mother of God.

Behold an archangel sent down  
 from heaven, not to Jerusalem,  
 but to lowly Nazareth :

Not to the palace of some  
 mighty princess, but to the little  
 cottage of an humble virgin.

To her, retired in her little oratory, and religiously watching in prayer and meditation,

Behold the glorious angel reverently approaches with words all full of honour and religion.

She received commission from heaven to give that sweet Name to which all knees must bend.

To her was entrusted the joy of men and angels; she fed and clothed the Giver of all things.

His tender years passed under her government; and the Creator of the Universe was subject to her.

He filled her soul with numberless blessings, and those the best of blessings, virtues.

He daily shed new beams into her understanding, beams of sublime, pure, and holy light.

He daily kindled new flames in her will, flames of chaste, strong, and active love;

Which made her approach nearer, unite more closely, and adhere more firmly.

Praise our Lord ye happy nations of heaven; praise Him you whom praise becomes.

Praise Him ye bright flaming spirits for raising His humble handmaid above you all.

Praise Him ye glorious Apostles for her perfections, of which you were once the daily witnesses.

Praise Him ye generous martyrs, who resisted to death, and entered the Land of Promise

through the Red Sea of your blood;

And teach us the true courage to fear nothing but sin; and with a virtuous resolution to carry heaven.

Praise Him ye steadfast confessors, who, by possessing your souls here in patience, possess them now in glory;

Teach us to follow her and your example, and never to be ashamed of the Cross of Christ.

Praise Him ye pure virgins, whose chaste hearts were always fit temples of the Holy Ghost;

Teach us to be like you, clean of heart, that we may with you enjoy the blest effect to see God.

Praise Him thyself, O Blessed Virgin! who best canst do what can be well done by creatures.

Praise the unexhausted source of bounty, never the less rich for enriching others.

Praise Him for showering down that bounty on thee; for thou hast nothing but what He gave thee.

Praise Him for showering it down in such plenty, and giving thee the perfections of all.

Martyrs had courage, confessors constancy, virgins purity; but thou all virtues.

Praise Him, and with thy praises mingle thy prayers, that we too at last may praise Him with thee.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Anthiphon.* As by a woman came sin and death, so by the fruit of a woman came grace and life.

*Our Father, &c.*

*Lesson.* Isa. vii. 10-16.

**M**OREOVER the Lord spake again unto Ahaz, saying,

Ask thee a sign of the Lord thy God; ask either in the depth, or in the height above.

But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the Lord.

And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also?

Therefore the Lord Himself

shall give you a sign: Behold, a Virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call His Name Emmanuel.

Butter and honey shall He eat, that He may know to refuse the evil and choose the good.

For before the Child shall know to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings.

*Responsory.*

Hear, house of David, hear the joyful news! that woman which mercy was pleased to promise, Omnipotence is pleased should be both a Mother and a Virgin.

*And with ecstasies of gratitude and joy reflect that Omnipotence joins with mercy to redeem mankind.*

Let us pray our Emmanuel to be true to His Name, and be always with us; let us pray Him to make us always with Him; let us make way for our prayers, by always flying evil and following good.

*And with ecstasies of gratitude and joy reflect that Omnipotence joins with mercy to redeem mankind.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

*And with ecstasies of gratitude and joy reflect that Omnipotence joins with mercy to redeem mankind.*

*Te Deum Laudamus.*

We praise Thee, &c. (*To be omitted in Advent and Lent.*)

*Antiphon.*

Fear not, Mary, for thou hast found grace with God; blessed art thou among women.

Ÿ. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done to me according to Thy word.



*Prayer.*

O God, Who by a ready and obedient assent to Thy seeming impossible word vouchsafest to fit the Blessed Virgin Mary to become the miraculous Mother of Thy Son, fit us, we beseech Thee, by a continual faith in Thy promises, and obedience to Thy commands, to become co-heirs with Him of Thy kingdom; Who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. Amen.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

Ÿ. O Lord, hear our prayers.

R. And let our supplications come unto Thee.

Ÿ. Bless we our Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Ÿ. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

Ÿ. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever.

R. Amen.

## OFFICE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN.

## VESPERS.

*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Hail! Mary, &c.*

Ÿ. O God, incline unto our aid.

R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

Ÿ. *Glory be, &c.*

R. *As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.

*Psalm.*

THOU, O blessed among women! wert full of wisdom because full of grace;

Thou knewest thy pedigree derived from kings, yet contentedly marriedest a poor tradesman;

Thou wert honoured with an embassy from Heaven, courted to alliance with Divinity;

And for this becamest suspected by thy husband, on the

point of being cast off with disgrace.

Thou hadst no doubt made some provision, such as thy low condition could afford, to receive the King of Heaven and earth.

But it was thought fit that thou shouldest be disappointed in thy humble preparations, and brought a helpless stranger to an unknown place:

Thrust unregarded to lodge

with beasts, and be delivered in a stall.

Soon a new decree of Providence called thee away from thy friends and country into banishment,

Not leaving thee so much as the poor content to breathe with freedom thy native air.

What had the Mother of God deserved, to be exposed to such, as we think, harsh trials?

But, see! ambition never aimed so high as her humble resignation reached:

God takes her protection upon Himself, and sets her right in the opinion of her husband;

Expressly deputing an Angel to Joseph, to clear her innocence and quiet his suspicions.

He sends down His own heavenly officers to wait at her stable, and brings kings from afar to adore and offer gifts.

He inspires the good Elizabeth to own and proclaim her blessed among women.

He inspires herself to know and foretell that all generations should call her blessed.

But, oh, the incomprehensible ways of Providence! while she is intent on serving the Father, she loses the Son.

Without complaint, without repining, she turns with a quiet care to do her part;

Searches three days with an unsuccessful diligence, and at

last returns again to the Temple;

There she finds, by a joyful experiment, God is never hid from those who seek Him as they ought:

She not only finds immediately her beloved Son, but finds Him honoured to admiration.

Happy are they who finish well their course, and break not off for weariness or discouragement.

So our Great Master loved His chosen ones to the end, so His Blessed Mother carried her love from the manger to the Cross!

See how a feeble woman, despising the assaults of fear, and shame, and grief, through all obstacles arrives at the place of horror:

There stands; and while the sword of sorrow cuts her heart, still owns her Son and cleaves to His Cross.

Say not hereafter, cold pretender to virtue, I am too weak to go through this temptation, to struggle with that affliction.

Cleave with the Blessed Virgin to the Cross of Christ; be patient, and silent, and resigned:

And the worst that can come will but work thee up here to a stronger virtue, and hereafter to a higher glory.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.

*Lesson.* S. Luke i. 26-38.

AND in the sixth month the Angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,

To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

And the Angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, highly favoured! the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women.

And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

And the Angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary; for thou hast found favour with God.

And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb and bring forth a Son, and shalt call His name Jesus.

He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David;

And He shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of His kingdom there shall be no end.

Then said Mary unto the Angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

And the Angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that Holy Thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

And, behold, thy cousin Elizabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren:

For with God nothing shall be impossible.

And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the Angel departed from her.

*Hymn.*

THE world, and all its boasted good,  
As vain and passing, she eschewed;  
And therefore with angelic bands  
In endless joys for ever stands.

Grant then that we, O gracious God,  
May follow in the steps she trod;  
And, freed from ev'ry stain of sin,  
As she hath won, may also win.

To Thee, O Christ, our loving King,  
All glory, praise, and thanks we bring;  
All glory, as is ever meet,  
To Father and to Paraclete. Amen.

*Antiphon.* Blessed art thou, Mary, who believest; behold, all things are accomplished that were told thee from our Lord.

*Magnificat.*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, &c., *see page 12.*

*Antiphon.* Blessed art thou, Mary, who believest; behold, all things are accomplished that were told thee from our Lord.

Ÿ. He that is mighty hath done great things to me;

R. And holy is His Name.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who hast been pleased to glorify Thy holy Name by expressing Thy mighty power in great effects of Thy goodness to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all generations through her; bless us, we humbly beseech Thee, with grace to keep, like her, and ponder all these things continually in our hearts, and to bring forth fruits worthy of them in our lives and deaths; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c.; or of any society you may belong to.*

Ÿ. Vouchsafe us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, a quiet night and a happy end.

R. Amen.

Ÿ. Lord, have mercy upon us.

R. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Ÿ. Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Our Father, &c.*

Ÿ. And lead us not into temptation.

R. But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Ÿ. O Thou, Who didst deign to inhabit a fleshly tabernacle, support me under my fleshly ills.

R. Light of the World! Light of the World! shine upon my darkened soul.

Ÿ. O Thou, Who wast a Man of Sorrows, and well acquainted with human grief, help me to endure all things patiently.

R. Cross of Jesus! Cross of Christ! my cross cheerfully I take.

Ÿ. With that white-robed company grant me to have part,

R. Who follow the Lamb withersoever He goeth, for they are virgins.

Ÿ. Into Thy hands, O Lord, we commend our spirits.

R. Thou hast redeemed us, O Lord, Thou God of Truth!

Ÿ. Preserve us, O Lord, as the apple of Thine eye.

R. Under the shadow of Thy wings protect us.

Ÿ. Save us, O Lord, waking; defend us, sleeping.

R. That we may watch with Christ, and rest in peace.

Ÿ. O Lord, let Thy mercy be upon us.

R. As our hope is in Thee.

Ÿ. O Lord, hear our prayers.

R. And let our cry come unto Thee.

*Prayer.*

Visit, we beseech Thee, O Lord, this habitation, and drive far away all snares of the enemy; let Thy holy angels dwell therein to preserve us in peace, and Thy blessing be upon us for ever; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

Ÿ. O Lord, hear our prayer.

R. And let our cry come unto Thee.

℣. Bless we our Lord.

℞. Thanks be to God.

℣. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

℞. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

℣. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever.

℞. Amen.

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## The Office of the Saints.

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THIS Office is intended to be said only on the greater Feasts, but may be applied to others according to particular devotion. In saying this Office, the same method is to be observed as in that for our Saviour.

## OFFICE OF THE SAINTS.

## MATINS.

The *Introduction* to be said as on page 2.

*Invitatory.*

Come, let us adore the King of Saints.

*Psalm.*

Great is the majesty of the King we serve, rich the splendour of His courts; over all the world He sends His commands, and none dare resist or dispute His power.

*Come, let us adore the King of Saints.*

Great is the clemency of our gracious Sovereign, to pardon the offences of repentant sinners; great is the bounty of our glorious Lord, to crown with rewards His faithful servants.

*Come, let us adore the King of Saints.*

Thousands of saints attend at His presence, and millions of angels wait on His Throne; all beautifully ranged in perfect order, all joyfully singing the praises of their Creator.

*Come, let us adore the King of Saints.*

Thou art our King, Blessed Jesus, and we, alas! Thy unprofitable subjects; we cannot praise Thee like those in Thine own bright choirs, yet humbly offer our little tribute.

*Come, let us adore the King of Saints.*

Let us bow down low our heads to Him before Whom the Seraphim cover their faces; let us bow low our faces to Him at Whose Feet the saints lay down their crowns.

*Come, let us adore the King of Saints*

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

Come, let us adore the King of Saints.

*Hymn.*

THE praises that the blessed know  
 The Church shall imitate below,  
 Whene'er she greets, in yearly strain,  
 The birth-days of her saints again.

Now all their battles past and gone,  
 The crown of glory is set on ;  
 For chastity, as lily white,  
 For martyrdom, as ruby bright.

This cannot human fancy know,  
 Nor tongue of men nor angels show,  
 Till endless life the victory brings  
 That gives for earthly, heavenly things.

One day of these most glorious rays  
 Is better than ten thousand days :  
 Refulgent with Celestial light,  
 And with God's fullest knowledge bright.

That we the saints' blest lives may reach,  
 That we their blessed faith may teach,  
 May join above, and love below,  
 The Spirit of all grace bestow. Amen.

*Antiphon.* The just shall be as lilies planted in Paradise ;  
*Alleluia!* and flourish in the presence of God for ever.  
*Alleluia!*

*Psalm.*

O PRAISE the Lord, all ye  
 powers of my soul ; praise  
 the immortal King of Saints and  
 Angels.

Praise Him, the Author of all  
 their graces ; praise Him, the  
 finisher of all their glories.

Praise Him in the admirable  
 privileges of the Virgin Mother,  
 whom He obeyed on earth and  
 assumed into Heaven ;

That He might give us hope  
 that our petitions will be heard,  
 presented by the hand of so  
 powerful an advocate.

Praise Him in the mighty  
 hosts of angels, whom He sets  
 above us as the guard of our  
 lives ;

That they may safely keep us  
 in all our ways, and carry us at  
 last to their own home.

Praise Him in the sacred Col-  
 lege of the Apostles, to whom  
 He revealed the mysteries of His  
 Kingdom ;

That they might teach us, too,  
 those heavenly truths, and show  
 us the same blest way to felicity.

Praise Him in the generous

fortitude of Martyrs, whom He strengthened with courage to resist even to death;

That we might learn from them to hold fast our faith, and rather lose this life than hazard the other.

Praise Him in the eminent sanctity of Confessors, whose whole design was a course of heroic virtue;

That we might raise our minds from our usual lazy flight, and with quick and active wing mount up towards Heaven.

Praise Him in the angelic purity of Virgins, whose hearts He inflamed with His Divine charity;

That they might kindle our breasts with the same chaste fire, the same fervent love to the Spouse of our souls.

Praise Him in the perfect holiness of all His Saints, whose lives He moulded into such various characters;

That every one of us might readily behold an ensample suited to himself.

O praise our Lord, all ye powers of my soul; praise the immortal King of Saints and Angels.

Praise every Person of the Sacred Deity, and give a hearty joy to the whole Court of Heaven.

*Antiphon.* The just shall be as lilies planted in Paradise; *Alleluia!* and flourish in the presence of God for ever. *Alleluia!*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Lesson.* Wisdom iii.

**B**UT the souls of the righteous are in the hands of God, and there shall no torment touch them.

Blessed for ever be the Eternal Father, Who has placed His Angels in so high a state of happiness.

Triumph, bright Angels, on your radiant thrones! and shine continually in the presence of your God.

Blessed for ever be the Eternal Son, Who has exalted so gloriously His incomparable Mother.

Live, most glorious Mother of the King of Heaven! and dwell perpetually in the joys of thy Son.

Blessed for ever be the Eternal Spirit, Whose grace prefers all the Saints to glory.

Rejoice, every happy Saint, in your own felicity; rejoice each one in the happiness of all.

Blessed for ever be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, Whose sight alone is the Heaven of Heavens.

Sing, all ye holy citizens of Heaven; sing altogether everlasting hymns.

Sing, and among your highest fervours forget not us, who thus in our humble way remember you.

Still pray our dear Redeemer to save our souls, and still we praise His Name for saving yours.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die, and their departure is taken for misery;

And their going from us to be

utter destruction: but they are in peace.

For though they be furnished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality.

And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded; for God proved them, and found them worthy of Himself.

As gold in the furnace has He tried them, and received them as a burnt-offering.

And in the time of their visi-

tation they shall shine, and run to and fro, as sparks among stubble.

They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people; and their Lord shall reign for ever.

They that put their trust in Him shall understand the truth, and such as be faithful in love shall abide with Him: for grace and mercy is to His Saints, and He has care for His elect.

*Responsory.*

Rejoice, all ye holy Saints, rejoice and sing for ever the mercies of the Lord: His blessed Hand has wiped all tears from your eyes, and now ye shall no more weep, no more complain.

*For the evening of sorrow is past, and the day of eternal joy is come. Alleluia!*

Now you no longer shall sigh to be delivered out of this dark and tedious prison, and dwell for ever in the glorious light which springs from the Face of God.

*For the evening of sorrow is past, and the day of eternal joy is come. Alleluia!*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

*For the evening of sorrow is past, and the day of eternal joy is come. Alleluia!*

*Te Deum Laudamus.*

We praise Thee, O God, &c., *see page 7.*

*Antiphon.* The number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; saying, with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Benedictus.*

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, &c., *see page 19.*

*Antiphon.* The number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; saying, with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

℣. Innumerable they are, yet pray for us to increase their number.

R. Thus they triumph for ever, yet desire us to enlarge their triumph.

*Prayer.*

Most gracious God, the Author of all sanctity and Lover of unity, Whose wisdom has established an admirable communion between Thy Church triumphant in Heaven and militant in earth, as members of the same mystical Body whereof Thy Son Christ Jesus is the Head; mercifully grant that, as Thy blessed, without ceasing, pray to Thee for us, we may continually praise Thee for them, and in correspondence to their perfect charity with pious observance celebrate their memory, till we all meet before Thy glorious Throne, and with one heart adore the Saviour of us all; Who, with Thee and Thy Eternal Spirit, lives and reigns, One God, world without end. Amen.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

℣. O Lord, hear our prayers.

R. And let our supplications come to Thee.

℣. Bless we our Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

℣. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

*Pause and meditate, according to your devotion.*

℣. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Ghost, descend upon us, and dwell in our hearts for ever. R. Amen.

OFFICE OF THE SAINTS.  
VESPERS.

*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Hail! Mary, &c.*

✠. O God, make speed to save us.

R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

✠. *Glory be, &c.*

R. *As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* Precious in Thy sight, O Lord, is the death of Thy saints; precious to Thee, themselves, and us.

*Psaln.*

THUS we have past another day, another step towards our long home.

We have seen the sun a few hours more; and our day is lost in its own night.

But is it lost, O careless one? and all the holy words we have read and heard?

Have we not been at a solemn feast? and do we so soon forget our entertainments?

Are we devout as the saints of God? and chaste, and temperate, and resigned as they?

Rather, what a lukewarm life is ours, compared to the zeal and fervour of the saints.

Often and long they fasted and chastised their bodies, to bring them under the influence of the Spirit.

Part of the night they watched, and most of the day they la-

boured; and both night and day continually prayed.

Lord, what a very little our frowardness endures, compared to the heroic patience of the saints.

When they were reviled, they reviled not again; when spitefully scorned, they held their peace.

When they were curst, they blest their enemies; when barbarously opprest, they prayed for their persecutors.

They served their Lord in hunger and thirst, and in all the austerities of an impoverished life.

Prisons and chains they willingly accepted; tortures and racks they cheerfully embraced.

Even death itself they undauntedly encountered, though furiously armed with every shape of terror.



All this they endured; and under all rejoiced, that they were counted worthy to suffer for Jesus.

O generous souls, who conquered heaven itself, and entered by force those everlasting gates!

Who, satisfied not with a little holiness, still prest onward to new degrees of perfection;

Who so frequently prayed the salvation of others, while yet you were concerned to procure your own.

Help us, O blessed spirits, now your state is secure! pray for us, O holy saints, now your charity is complete!

Pray that the seed you have sown may take deep root, and bring forth fruit to everlasting life.

Pray we may follow those who imitate you, and not be corrupted by the example of the careless.

And when our prayers seem long or dry, or call us away from some vanity we love;

When to forgive our enemies seems hard to us, or any other duty crosses our humour,

Pray we may then remember what you have done, and what you have gained by enduring to the end.

Pray we may think what our Lord Himself has done, and what He has promised to them that follow Him.

Their names He will write in the Book of Life, and make them sit with Him about His own Throne.

O gracious Lord, Whose love is ever around, and searches every way to save us sinners!

*Antiphon.* Precious in Thy sight, O Lord, is the death of Thy saints; precious to Thee, themselves, and us.

Who camest Thyself, bright Sun of Glory, to enlighten our darkness, and warm our hearts;

Who with Thy fruitful beams still kindlest others, to burn as tapers in Thy Church's hand;

O make us bless Thy Name for all these mercies, and let not one be lost by our ingratitude!

And when our life's last day begins to wane, and bids us hasten to prepare for night,

Then come, ye holy angels, and watch about us; and suffer not the enemy to disturb our passage.

Come and receive in peace our departing souls, and bear them safely to the presence of our Lord.

Then, O thou blessed Virgin Mother, and all ye glorious saints, protect and assist us with thy favours and prayers!

Then, O Thou blest Redeemer of the world, and Sovereign King of Life and Death!

Hear Thou our cries, and pardon our sins, and graciously deliver us from all our fears;

Call us to Thyself with Thine own blest voice; call us, O blessed Jesu! in Thine own sweet words:

Come, ye blessed of My Father, possess the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

Then, O my happy soul! immediately obey, and go forth with gladness to meet thy Lord;

To live with Him, and behold His glory; to rejoice with Him, and sing His praise.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Lesson.* Rev. vii. 14.

THESE are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb.

Therefore they are before the Throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His Temple; and He that sitteth on the Throne shall dwell amongst them.

They shall hunger no more, they shall thirst no more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

For the Lamb that is in the midst of the Throne shall feed them, and shall lead them into living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

*Hymn.*

LIGHT'S abode, celestial Salem!  
 Vision dear, whence peace hath spring,  
 Brighter than the heart can fancy,  
 Mansion of the Highest King:  
 O how glorious are the praises  
 Which of thee the prophets sing!

Thou with beauteous stones, and polished,  
 Wondrously art reared on high;  
 Thou with precious gems and crystal  
 Decorated gloriously;  
 And with pearls thy portals glitter,  
 And with gold thy streets may vie.

There for ever and for ever  
 Alleluia is outpoured;  
 For unending, for unbroken,  
 Is the Feast-day of the Lord:  
 All is pure and all is holy  
 That within thy walls is stored.

There no cloud nor passing vapour  
 Dims the brightness of the air;  
 Endless noon-day, glorious noon-day,  
 From the Sun of suns is there;  
 There no night brings rest from labour,  
 There unknown are toil and care.

O how glorious and resplendent,  
 Fragile body, shalt thou be!  
 When endued with so much beauty,  
 Full of health, and strong, and free—  
 Full of vigour, full of pleasure,  
 That shall last eternally!

Now with gladness, now with courage,  
 Bear the burden on thee laid;  
 That hereafter these, thy labours,  
 May with endless gifts be paid,  
 And in everlasting glory  
 Thou with joy mayest be arrayed.

Laud and honour to the Father!  
 Laud and honour to the Son!  
 Laud and honour to the Spirit,  
 Ever Three! and ever One!  
 Consubstantial, co-eternal,  
 While unending ages run. Amen.

*Antiphon.* Worthy art Thou, O Lord, to receive the book, and to open the seals thereof; for Thou wert slain, and hast redeemed us to God with Thy Blood out of every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation; and hast made us to our God a kingdom. *Alleluia!*

*Magnificat.* My soul doth magnify, &c., see page 12.

*Antiphon.* Worthy art Thou, O Lord, to receive the book, and to open the seals thereof; for Thou wert slain, and hast redeemed us to God with Thy Blood out of every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation; and hast made us to our God a kingdom. *Alleluia!*

℣. Thou hast made us to our God a kingdom; may He reign in it for ever.

℞. Thou hast prepared for us a kingdom with our God; may we reign in it for ever.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who, after Thy servants had spent the day of their life in a course of piety and heroic virtue, didst close their evening with a holy death and eternal reward; grant us, we beseech Thee, so to imitate Thy saints, in wisely bestowing our time here, that we may follow them in their happy voyage out of this world, and be admitted to Thy everlasting glory with them in the other; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Here may follow prayers of obligation—i.e., for the Church, clergy, parents, &c., or of any society you may belong to.*

℣. Vouchsafe us, we beseech Thee, &c., see page 13.

## The Office for the Departed.

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THIS Office should be said every first Monday of the month, unless it be a Holy Day, and then it should be postponed to the next convenient day : it may also be said at other times, according to occasion, or particular devotion. Whenever it is said, that of the day may be omitted.

## OFFICE FOR THE DEPARTED.

## MATINS.

The *Introduction* to be said as on page 2.

*Invitatory.*

Come, let us adore our God, to Whom all things live.

*Psalm.*

He is the great Creator of the world, and Sovereign Judge of all mankind: He sits above on His glorious Throne, and in His hands are the keys of life and death.

*Come, let us adore our God, to Whom all things live.*

Whatever He pleases He brings to pass, and none can resist His almighty power: whatsoever He does is still the best, and none can accuse His all-knowing goodness.

*Come, let us adore our God, to Whom all things live.*

All things do live to Thee, O Lord! Thou sole Preserver of universal nature, the blessed saints rejoice in Thy glory; and the imperfect souls are sustained in hope.

*Come, let us adore our God, to Whom all things live.*

Even the unhappy spirits declare Thy justice; and the rest of Thy creatures look up for mercy, expecting at last to be delivered from corruption into the glorious liberty of the sons of God.

*Come, let us adore our God, to Whom all things live.*

Lord, while we breathe, make us live to Thee; and when we expire, depart in Thy peace: and, whether we live or die, we be always Thine, and after death still live with Thee.

*Come, let us adore our God, to Whom all things live.*

Give them eternal rest, O merciful Lord!

*And may Thy glorious light shine upon them for ever.*

Come, let us adore our God, to Whom all things live.

*Antiphon.* I am the Resurrection and the Life; he that believes in Me, even though he be dead, shall live; and every one that lives and believes in Me shall not die for ever.

*Psalm.*

WHEN we have shed our solemn tears, and paid our due sighs to the memory of the departed,

Let us wipe our eyes with the comfort of hope, and change our grief into a charitable joy.

The friends we mourn are delivered from this world, and all the miseries we so justly deplore.

They quietly rest in the silent grave, till they arise to immortal glory;

No longer confined to this prison of the body, but gone to dwell in the region of spirits;

Where, though their passage be stopt awhile, they are free from all fear of being cast away.

They are sure at last to behold their Redeemer, and live for ever with the blessed Jesus.

Seems it, then, so hard a fate to tread the path which all our ancestors have trodden before?

Adam, the first of men; and Abraham, the friend God;

David, the man after God's own heart; and the blessed Mary, Mother of our Lord.

All these have paid their debt to nature, and subscribed the law of universal mortality.

Jesus Himself, the Eternal Son of God, expired on the Cross; and went to His glory through the gates of death.

And shall our fond self-love so

blindly flatter us to wish an exception to this general rule?

Should we not rather rejoice at the sight of death, that, whenever it comes, will still bring us advantage?

If in our age, 'tis a haven of repose, and ought to be welcome after so long a voyage;

If in our youth, it prevents a thousand calamities, a thousand dangers of ruining our souls;

If by an ordinary sickness, 'tis the course of nature; if by an outward violence, 'tis always the will of heaven.

What need we fear how many deaths there are? We are sure there can be but one for us.

Dying is an act to be done but once; and once well done, we are happy for ever.

Praise, then, our Lord, all ye nations of the earth! whom His providence yet sustains alive.

O praise our Lord, all ye faithful departed, for this preservesthejust.

Though ye dwell in the valley of death, and sit afflicted in the shades of darkness,

Yet will He bring you to His eternal mountains, and fill your eyes with glorious light;

Though your bones be bruised with sorrow, and your hearts made heavy with faintness,

Yet you again shall be clothed with beauty, and placed to sing among the blessed saints.

O praise our Lord, all ye blessed saints, whom His bounty already has crowned with glory.

Ye, who, designing your whole life for heaven, departed with joy to possess your hopes.

O praise our Lord, all ye glorious angels! whose bright felicity began so early.

Stars that arise in the morning

of the world, and still maintain your unchangeable lustre.

O praise our Lord, all ye His works! bless Him and magnify Him for ever.

Praise His almighty power that gave you your being, and still preserves you from relapsing into nothing.

Give them eternal rest, O merciful Lord!

*And may Thy glorious light shine upon them for ever.*

*Antiphon.* I am the Resurrection and the Life; he that believes in Me, even though he be dead, shall live; and every one that lives and believes in Me shall not die for ever.

*Our Father, &c.*

*Lesson.* Job xiv.

**M**AN that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble.

He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not.

And dost Thou open Thine eyes upon such an one, and bringest me into judgment with Thee?

Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean?

Not one. Seeing his days are determined, the number of his months are with Thee, Thou hast

appointed his bounds which he cannot pass;

Turn from him, that he may rest, till he shall accomplish, as an hireling, his day.

All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.

Thou shalt call, and I will answer Thee; Thou wilt have a desire to the work of Thine own hands.

For now Thou numberest my steps, dost Thou not watch over my sin?

*Responsory.*

My days are declined as a shadow, and I am withered away even as grass; and nothing remains but the cold grave. O let me recal that uncomfortable word! My days indeed are declined, but my eternity is safe. I am withered away as grass, but the spring will come, and revive me into a flower of Paradise.



*This my hope, is laid up in my bosom ; let then my body be crumbled into dust, and my soul detained for a time in sorrow.*

I know my Redeemer lives, and in the last day I shall rise out of the earth, and be compassed again with my skin ; and in my flesh shall see God, and in that blissful sight be for ever happy.

*This, my hope, is laid up in my bosom ; give them eternal rest, O merciful Lord, and may Thy glorious light shine upon them for ever.*

℣. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

℞. They rest from their labours, and their works follow them.

*Antiphon.* Only our earth shall return to earth ; but our better part shall live for ever.

*Benedictus.*

Blessed be our Lord God of Israel, &c., *see page 19.*

*Antiphon.* Only our earth shall return to earth ; but our better part shall live for ever.

*Then kneeling, say—*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Miserere mei, Deus.*

℣. Have mercy upon me, O God, after Thy great goodness.

℞. According to the multitude of Thy mercies do away mine offences.

℣. Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.

℞. For I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is ever before me.

℣. Against Thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in Thy sight, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy saying, and clear when Thou art judged.

R. Behold, I was shapen in wickedness, and in sin hath my mother conceived me.

Y. But lo, Thou requirest truth in the inward parts, and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly.

R. Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Y. Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness, that the bones which Thou hast broken may rejoice.

R. Turn Thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds.

Y. Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

R. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Y. O give me the comfort of Thy help again, and stablish me with Thy free Spirit.

R. Then shall I teach Thy ways unto the wicked, and sinners shall be converted unto Thee.

Y. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou that art the God of my health, and my tongue shall sing of Thy righteousness.

R. Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall shew Thy praise.

Y. For Thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it Thee; but Thou delightest not in burnt-offerings.

R. The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt Thou not despise.

Y. O be favourable and gracious unto Sion; build Thou the walls of Jerusalem.

R. Then shalt Thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with the burnt-offerings and oblations; then shall they offer young bullocks upon Thine Altar.

- Ÿ. Give them eternal rest, O merciful Lord.  
R. And may Thy glorious light shine upon them for ever.  
Ÿ. Turn not away Thy face from them, O Lord.  
R. Turn not Thy face away in wrath from Thy servants.  
Ÿ. Behold their humiliation and their labour.  
R. And forgive them all their sins.  
Ÿ. Behold how their spirit is in anguish.  
R. And their heart troubled within them.  
Ÿ. Their iniquities have overtaken them.  
R. Innumerable evils have compassed them about.  
Ÿ. And now what is their expectation but Thou, O Lord?  
R. And their substance is with Thee.  
Ÿ. Before Thee is all their desire.  
R. And their groans are not hid from Thee.  
Ÿ. As the hart pants after the water-brooks.  
R. So do their souls thirst after Thee.  
Ÿ. Their souls thirst after Thee, the Living Fountain.  
R. When shall they come and appear before Thy face?  
Ÿ. Their tears are their bread day and night.  
R. While still it is said to them, Where is your God?  
Ÿ. Perfect them, O Lord, Thou God of strength.  
R. Shew them Thy face, and they shall be safe.  
Ÿ. Bring out their souls from prison to praise Thy Name.  
R. The just stand expecting till Thou rewardest them.  
Ÿ. How long, Lord, wilt Thou forget them, for ever?  
R. How long wilt Thou hide Thy face from them?  
Ÿ. Turn Thee, O Lord, and deliver their souls.  
R. Save them for Thy mercy's sake.  
Ÿ. Save Thy people, O Lord, and bless Thy inheritance.  
R. Govern them, and raise them up to eternity.  
Ÿ. That they may walk in the light of Thy countenance.  
R. And rejoice in Thy presence for ever.

℣. That their souls may live and sing Thy praise.

℞. While even Thy judgments lead them to their bliss.

℣. O Lord, hear our prayer.

℞. And let our cry come unto Thee.

*Prayer.*

O God, the giver of pardon, and the lover of the salvation of mankind, we beseech Thy clemency in behalf of our brethren, relations, and benefactors who have departed this life; grant that the souls of these Thy servants, whom Thou hast called out of this world, having received the full pardon of their sins, and being discharged from all guilt, may be received into the region of light and peace, and be numbered amongst the blessed; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*A Prayer for any particular Person Departed.*

O most gracious God, Father of Mercies, God of infinite goodness, behold me prostrate before Thy Throne. I pray and beseech Thee to have mercy upon the soul of Thy faithful servant, *N. N.*, and place *him* in possession of *his* everlasting inheritance. Remember that *he* is the work of Thy hand, purchased by the most precious Blood of Thy Divine Son Jesus, and shew Thy infinite mercy upon *him*. Hear, O Lord, the prayers that I put up to Thee with confidence; through the merits of the Passion and Death of Jesus, Thy most beloved Son, that *he* may receive *his* consolation, and enjoy without delay that immortal glory which Thou hast prepared for Thine elect. Amen.

℣. Give them eternal rest, O merciful Lord.

℞. And may Thy glorious light shine upon them for ever.

℣. May they rest in peace.

℞. Amen.

## OFFICE FOR THE DEPARTED.

## VESPERS.

*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Our Father, &c.*

*Hail! Mary, &c.*

✠. O God, make speed to save us.

R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

✠. *Glory be, &c.*

R. *As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* Happy they who are prayed for by others, but far more happy they who pray for themselves.

*Psalm.*

COME, let us make our peace betimes with our God, before the evening approach too near.

Let us implore His favour first for ourselves, and not till then presume to beg for others.

Let us look first into our own breasts, and strictly examine what passes there,

Lest, while we pray for the salvation of others, ourselves become everlasting reprobates.

Tell me, my soul, how stand our great accounts? Are all things even betwixt Heaven and us?

Are we prepared to go and meet our Judge, Whose justice punishes every least defect?

Is there not some restitution to make, which the love of this world tempts us to delay?

Forgive, O Sovereign Goodness, our imperfections, and fix our whole hearts on nothing but Thyself.

Deliver us, O Lord, from the temptations of this world, and mercifully save us from the wrath to come:

That dreadful wrath which we so justly fear, and which so many terribly feel.

Pity, O Lord, their miseries, Thou Who hearest their cries; relieve their sorrows, Thou Who seest their tears:

That they may pass away to those mansions of joy, where holy souls rest and weep no more.

Hear these prayers, O Lord, for Thy servants, and favourably accept our humble charity.

Hear their own better prayers,

O Lord, for themselves, and tenderly regard their doleful complaints.

Comfort yourselves, O ye heirs of hope, and be not cast down at your present distress.

If He defer a while, expect; for He will surely come, and bring you relief.

He justly stays to punish your neglect, when He often called and you would not come to Him;

He mercifully stays till your soul be refined and able to bear the splendour of His presence.

Then will His glorious light immediately appear, and open to your view that blissful prospect;

Then will He graciously unveil Himself, and your eye shall see Him face to face;

Then will the Eternal Deity shine brightly on you, and ravish your hearts with everlasting ecstasies;

All your great hopes shall be fully satisfied, and your long expectation abundantly rewarded:

Meanwhile, our task shall be to pray for your peace, and join

our humble voice to your strong cries.

O pray for us, ye holy Saints! whose well-prepared affections went straight to Heaven.

Pray for us, ye choirs of Angels! who assist continually at the Throne of Glory.

Pray for us, bright Queen of heavenly spirits, and blessed Mother of the Son of God!

Pray for the faithful detained in sorrow, that the days of their banishment be no more prolonged.

Pray for us sinners, yet pilgrims in the way, that our souls may arrive at their true home.

Pray that we both may still look up to your glories, and wish and long for that happy state.

Pray that in all our most eager desires we may still submit to the orders of Heaven;

Still frame our songs of hope and patience, and still close all with these precious words:

Thy Kingdom come, O glorious Lord! and yet, O Lord, Thy will be done.

Give them eternal rest, O merciful Lord!

*And may Thy glorious light shine upon them for ever.*

*Antiphon.* Happy they who are prayed for by others, but far more happy they who pray for themselves.

Ÿ. Blessed are the dead who die in our Lord.

R. They rest from their labours, and their works follow them.

*Antiphon.* Blessed are the servants whom our Lord shall find watching; He surely will bestow on them all the mercies of Heaven.

*Magnificat.*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, &c., *see page 12.*

*Antiphon.* Blessed are the servants whom our Lord shall find watching; He surely will bestow on them all the mercies of Heaven.

*Then kneeling, say—*

*Our Father, &c.*

*De Profundis.*

- Ÿ. Out of the deep have I called unto Thee, O Lord :  
Lord, hear my voice.
- R. O let Thine ears consider well the voice of my complaint.
- Ÿ. If Thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss, O Lord, who may abide it?
- R. For there is mercy with Thee, therefore shalt Thou be feared.
- Ÿ. I look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for Him; in His Word is my trust.
- R. My soul fleeth unto the Lord; before the morning watch, I say, before the morning watch.
- Ÿ. O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption.
- R. And He shall redeem Israel from all his sins.
- Ÿ. Give them eternal rest, O merciful Lord!
- R. And may Thy glorious light shine upon them for ever.
- Ÿ. Have mercy upon them, O Lord, have mercy on them.
- R. For their souls confide in Thee.
- Ÿ. And in the shadow of Thy wings shall they hope
- R. Till their iniquities pass away.
- Ÿ. Have mercy on them, O Lord, and bless them.



- R. Show them the light of Thy countenance, and be merciful to them.
- Y. Turn not Thy face away from them.
- R. Lest they become like those who descend into the lake.
- Y. Keep Thou their souls, O Lord, for they are holy.
- R. Save Thy servants, who put their trust in Thee.
- Y. They praise Thee, O Lord, with their whole hearts.
- R. And glorify Thy Name for ever.
- Y. For Thy mercy already has been great towards them.
- R. Thou hast delivered them from the lowermost hell.
- Y. Yet hast Thou set them in obscure places.
- R. As the dead of the world.
- Y. Thy arrows are stuck deep in them.
- R. And Thou hast fastened Thy hand upon them.
- Y. Their iniquities are gone over their heads.
- R. And keep them down as a heavy burden.
- Y. But Thou, O Lord, art their strong sustainer.
- R. Their glory, and the lifter up of their heads.
- Y. Thou art always near to relieve the afflicted.
- R. And wilt save the humble in spirit.
- Y. Thou raisest those that are fallen.
- R. And bindest together the broken hearts.
- Y. Show them Thy mercy, O Lord, who call on Thy Name.
- R. Make them rejoice who lift up their souls to Thee.
- Y. To Thee, O Lord, they lift up their souls.
- R. In Thee is their confidence; let them not be ashamed.
- Y. Let not their enemies triumph over them.
- R. For all that expect Thee shall not be confounded.
- Y. Though they walk in the midst of the shadow of death,
- R. Let them not fear, for Thou art with them.

Y. Thou art their God, and their deliverer.

R. O Lord, delay not Thy coming.

Y. O Lord, hear our prayer.

R. And let our cry come unto Thee.

*Prayer.*

O God, Whose gracious Providence has not left without hope Thy servants departed imperfect in charity; accept, we beseech Thee, our humble supplications, that their souls may be rendered worthy to enjoy Thy blissful sight, that while our memory of them teaches us a greater carefulness of incurring Thy displeasure and postponement from Thy presence, Thy indulgent mercy would vouchsafe them refreshment, light, and peace, and hasten their entrance into eternal rest and glory with Thy saints; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Prayer for any particular Person Departed.*

O most gracious God, *see page 128.*

Y. Give them eternal rest, O merciful Lord.

R. And may Thy glorious light shine upon them for ever.

Y. May they rest in peace.

R. Amen.



# The Calendar,

WITH THE

FESTIVALS AND FASTING DAYS OF THE CHURCH,

AND THE

MEMORIES OF SUCH HOLY MEN AND MARTYRS  
AS ARE THEREIN REGISTERED.

---

OF THE CALENDAR, AND THE SPECIAL USE THEREOF IN THE  
CHURCH OF GOD.

The Calendar of the Church is as full of benefit as delight unto such as are given to the due study and contemplation thereof; for, besides the admirable order and disposition of times which are necessary for the better transacting of all ecclesiastical and secular affairs, it hath in it a very beautiful distinction of the days and seasons, whereof some are chosen out and sanctified,\* and others are put among the days of the week to number.

But the chief use of it in the Church (saith S. Austin) is to preserve a solemn memory, and to continue in their due time, sometimes a weekly and sometimes an annual commemoration of those excellent and high benefits which God, both by Himself, His Son, and His Blessed Spirit—one Undivided Trinity—hath bestowed upon mankind, for the founding and propagating of that Christian Faith and religion which we now profess.

And this Faith of ours, being no other than the very same wherein the holy Angels are set to succour us, and which the glorious company of the Apostles, the noble army of Martyrs, and the goodly fellowship of other God's Saints and servants, men famous in their generations before

\* Eccclus. xxxiii. 7.

us, have some maintained with the sanctity of their lives, and some sealed with the innocence of their deaths ; it is for this cause that the names of these holy and heavenly Saints are still preserved in the Calendar of the Church, there to remain upon record and register (as of old time they did), where they might also stand as sacred memorials of God's mercy towards us, as forcible witnesses of His ancient Truth, as confirmations of the Faith which we now profess to be the same that theirs then was, as provocations to the piety which they then practised, and as everlasting records to show Whose blessed servants they were on earth, that are now like the angels of God in Heaven.

Howbeit, forasmuch as, in process of time, the multitude of men and women reputed holy in this kind became so exceedingly numerous that all the days of the year would not have been sufficient for a several commemoration of them, it was the great wisdom and moderation of those religious and grave prelates by whom God (of His especial blessing to our Church above others) did reform such things as were many ways amiss here among us, to choose one solemn day alone wherein to magnify God for the generality of all His Saints together, and to retain some few selected days in every month for the special memory of others, both holy persons and holy actions, which they observed, not our people alone, but the Universal Church of Christ also, to be most affected unto, and best acquainted withal, hereby avoiding only the burden and the unnecessary number of Festival Days ; not disallowing the multitude of God's true Martyrs and Saints, whose memorials we are to solemnize, howsoever, in the general Festival of All Saints' Day, as by the proper Lessons, the Collect, Epistle, and Gospel, then appointed in our public Liturgy, doth most evidently appear.

# THE CALENDAR.

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# The Proper of Festivals.

## NOVEMBER 30.—S. ANDREW.

S. ANDREW, *Apostle and Martyr*.—A native of Bethsaida, styled by the Greeks the Protoclete, being the first of the Baptist's followers to acknowledge the Divinity of our Lord. He first brought his own brother Simon to the knowledge of the Incarnate One. S. Andrew subsequently preached the Gospel in Scythia and Thrace; confessed and suffered for the Faith at Patræ in Achia, being crucified upon a *crux decussata* of olive-wood. His body was removed to Constantinople by Constantine, 357; translated to Amalp, A.D. 1210.

1. As soon as that holy Apostle S. Andrew saw the Cross afar off prepared for his martyrdom, he was transported with joy, and triumphantly saluted it as the happy instrument of his approaching glory. *Alleluia.*

2. O blessed Cross! dearly by me beloved, and earnestly desired, and often sought, and now at length ready to satisfy my longing soul; take me up into thy arms, the disciple of Him Who was crucified on thee. *Alleluia.*

3. Take me up into thy arms, O blessed Cross! and bear me to my glorious Master; that by thee He may receive me, Who by thee has redeemed me. *Alleluia.*

### *Antiphon.*

S. Andrew's sole glory was in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, in Whom the world was crucified to him, and he to the world.

*V.* He besought the people not to hinder his martyrdom.

*R.* And preached to them for two days as he hung on the Cross.

### *Prayer.*

O God, Whose grace kindled in the blessed Apostle S. Andrew so ardent a love of his Master that it shone forth in vehement desires of His Cross; grant that, through our devoutly celebrating the remembrance of his holy race and happy reward, Thy grace may be quickened in our hearts, and that we may be encouraged with confidence and joy to endure whatever sufferings Thy Providence casts in our way; and grant that they may serve to glorify Thee, to advance Thy Truth, and to secure the attainment of our eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**DECEMBER 21.—S. THOMAS.**

S. THOMAS, *Apostle and Martyr*.—Recorded as slow in attaining to the confirmation of the belief in the corporeal presence of our Lord after the Resurrection, but subsequently a firm upholder of the Faith. He carried the Gospel into India, where he is supposed to have survived SS. Peter and Paul, and to have won the crown of martyrdom at Meliapore, on the coast of Coromandel, where he was stabbed by lances. His body was discovered by John III. of Portugal, 1523.

1. The other disciples said to Thomas, "We have seen the Lord;" but he said to them, "Except I shall see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe."

2. After eight days Jesus came in, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst of them, and said, "Peace be with you." Then said He to Thomas, "Reach hither thy finger, and behold My hand; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into My side, and be not faithless, but believing."

3. S. Thomas, no longer able to resist so clear an evidence, cried out to Jesus, "My Lord and my God!"

*Antiphon.*

O wondrous sweetness of our Saviour's spirit! S. Thomas was absent, and incredulous, and peremptory, and our Lord forgives him all, and restores him to favour with the easy penance of a gentle reproof.

Ÿ. O Thomas! because thou hast seen thou hast believed.

R. Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

*Prayer.*

O God, Whose condescension to convince the incredulity of Thy Apostle S. Thomas did turn his hardness to believe into a means of increasing the faith of Thy Church; grant, we beseech Thee, that this festal remembrance of the glorious Apostle's attesting our risen Saviour may so quicken our hearts that we may, not only in words, but, like him in life and death, continue to confess Thy Son Jesus, our Lord and our God; to Whom, with, &c.

DECEMBER 25.—THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD,  
COMMONLY CALLED  
CHRISTMAS DAY.

CHRIST'S-MASS.—Celebrated upon the Birth-day of our King, and we come with the shepherds to adore the Infant God presented to us in the arms of His Blessed Mother. The Mystery of the Incarnation and of the Blessed Sacrament are one; therefore upon this joyful Festival we join the first worshippers of the Real Presence, and re-echo the angelic song, *Gloria in Excelsis Deo, et in terrâ pax.* "We fall down and worship in the *House of Bread.*"

*Invitatory.* To-day for us our Lord was born : O come, let us adore Him.

1. O joyful tidings ! worthy of an angel. Behold, to us was born this day a Saviour, Who is Christ our Lord !  
*Alleluia !*

2. Wonderful signs, to seek this new-born King of Heaven and earth ! Ye shall find Him wrapped in swaddling-clothes, and lying in a manger. *Alleluia !*

3. O blessed harmony of the Celestial choirs ! Glory be to God on high, in earth peace towards men of good will.  
*Alleluia ! Alleluia !*

*Antiphon.*

The shepherds came to Bethlehem with speed, and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in the manger.

Ÿ. This is the day which our Lord has made. *Alleluia !*

R. This is the day which made our Lord. *Alleluia !*

*Prayer.*

O God, Who every year givest a fresh birth to the devotions of Thy Church by the welcome Festival of our Saviour's Nativity; grant us, we beseech Thee, with such tender affections to entertain this first humble rising of the Sun of Justice to us, as may better dispose and more strongly engage us to follow Him through the whole painful course which, like a giant, He rejoiced to run, enlightening the world with Thy Truth, and inflaming it with Thy love, till in the end we arrive at His eternal rest; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

## DECEMBER 26.—S. STEPHEN.

S. STEPHEN, *Deacon and Proto-martyr*, suffered by stoning at the close of the first year of our Lord's Crucifixion. After his Divine Master, he is our example in the forgiveness of injuries even unto death, and an encouragement to the all-availing efficacy of intercessory prayer, the conversion of S. Paul being the first fruits of this martyr's petition for his enemies.

1. S. Stephen, full of grace and courage, wrought great miracles among the people; and none could resist the wisdom and spirit with which he spake. *Alleluia!*

2. Undaunted, he cut their hearts with reproaches of them, and of their fathers, as betrayers and murderers of the Just One, and of those who foretold His coming. *Alleluia!*

3. When they gnashed their teeth at him, he looked steadfastly up, and saw the heavens opened, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God. *Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

While they stoned him, S. Stephen called upon God, and prayed, "Lord Jesus receive my soul!" and, kneeling down, cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge!" *Alleluia!*

Ÿ. He saw the heavens opened; he saw and entered.

R. He saw by his faith, and entered by his charity.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who in Thy first martyr, S. Stephen, has vouchsafed to Thy Church an eminent example of perfect Christianity, kindle in our hearts, we beseech Thee, a zealous emulation of his graces; that imitating his constancy here in asserting Thy truth, and his charity in praying for our persecutors, we may, with him, hereafter receive the crown of eternal life; through Thy Son Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

## DECEMBER 27.—S. JOHN EVANGELIST.

S. JOHN, *Apostle and Evangelist*.—The disciple whom Jesus loved, the representative of the Church in all ages, faithful at the foot of the Cross, worshipping the sacred wounds, showing his devotion to his crucified Lord by his adoring, reverent care for the Mother of God, who was entrusted to him, S. John proved his willingness for martyrdom; and was then by Domitian banished to Patmos, where he was granted heavenly visions. He returned to Ephesus, to preach even unto death (at the age of 102) words of purity and love. He survived his Master seventy years.

1. This is that favourite disciple who leaned on our Lord's breast at His Last Supper, and to whom were revealed the secrets of heaven. *Alleluia!*

2. This is he in whom meet all those glorious titles of Apostle, Evangelist, and Prophet; of Martyr, Confessor, and Virgin. *Alleluia!*

3. This is he who, above all those glorious titles, delights in one incomparably greater than them all, *the disciple whom Jesus loved*. *Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

S. John alone had the care and courage to assist the sorrowing Mother at the Cross of her dying Son; S. John alone had the glory of hearing himself and her bequeathed to one another as Mother and Son.

℣. The scalding oil could not hurt his chaste body.

℞. Nor banishment in Patmos prevent his free converse with angels.

*Prayer.*

O God, by the prerogatives of Whose special grace the blessed Apostle S. John obtained the transcendent title of "Beloved of his Master," and afterwards became the great teacher of mutual charity; grant, we beseech Thee, that his sacred memory may incite us and encourage us to have the same purity of body and mind, and steady love of Thee, and sincere charity one towards another; and that we may aspire after some share in that blessed title, and enjoy its happy fruits, Thy grace here and Thy glory hereafter; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, &c.



## DECEMBER 28.—HOLY INNOCENTS.

THE HOLY INNOCENTS, OR CHILDER-MASS, *Martyrs in deed*, though not in will. The primroses of martyrdom, put to death by order of Herod Ascolmta, in his infamous wish to destroy the Infant King of the Jews, child of Mary. Herod's own son, by a wife of the House of David, suffered amongst the babes under two years old. Baptized in blood, first of the blessed little ones who have passed into Paradise in baptismal purity.

1. God withdrew his only Isaac, and left a thousand happy lambs to be sacrificed in His stead, and accepted for His sake. *Alleluia!*

2. Herod meant to destroy, but behold he saved; his diligent cruelty secured the hazard of their infant state, and by shedding their blood effected their Baptism. *Alleluia!*

3. These were brought from amongst men, the first fruits of God and the Lamb; and in their mouth was found no lie, for they were without spot before the Throne of God. *Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

A voice was heard in Ramah; lamentation and great mourning; Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted because they were not.

℣. Weep not for thy children, Rachel; behold they are.

℞. Be comforted; they are kings, and reign with Christ for ever. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Prayer.*

O God, Who by the death of the Holy Innocents hast taught Thy Church that no age nor occasion of suffering for our Saviour is exempt from high reward, grant, we beseech Thee, that our celebrating this festival may make us adore this gracious dispensation of Thy providence; and however severely it may seem at any time to treat us, grant that our hearts may be confirmed in a hopeful resignation to Thy will, and assured trust that all leads to eternal advantage; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## DECEMBER 31.—S. SYLVESTER.

S. SYLVESTER, *Bishop and Confessor*, A.D. 335, imbibed early saintliness from his holy mother, Justina. He was exalted to the Pontificate, and discharged its arduous duties for twenty-one years and eleven months, and died December 31. Sylvester was instrumental in the conversion to the faith of the first Christian Emperor, Constantine; by whose admission to the Church the words received their fulfilment, "Kings shall be thy nursing fathers."

1. This is the holy saint and bishop who miraculously healed the great Emperor Constantine, and by the sacred laver of Baptism cleansed him at once from the leprosy of his body and the sins of his soul. *Alleluia!*

2. The sign of the Son of Man in the heavens, which, copied on his banner, made him a conqueror; displayed on his forehead, did incomparably more—made him a Christian. *Alleluia!*

3. O happy times, when Paganism was abolished, Arianism condemned! when persecution ceased, and public liberty was given to profess and practice as Christians and Catholics. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

This is that happy bishop in whom the holiness of all his predecessors began to be rewarded with those privileges which better enable to govern the universal Church.

Y. With glory and honour Thou hast crowned him, O Lord.

R. And established him over the works of Thy hands. *Alleluia!*

*Prayer.*

O God, Whose bounty crowned, even on earth, Thy holy servant S. Sylvester with the glory of baptizing the first Christian Emperor, and the happiness of obtaining liberty and encouragement for Christianity through all his dominions; grant, we beseech Thee, that our celebrating his festival may refresh in us the memory of that high mercy to the world, and render us more steadfast to that primitive faith, so eminently victorious over all persecutions; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

### JANUARY 1.—CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD.

THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD.—The Festival of Obedience, upon which we commemorate our perfect God, in His perfect Manhood, submitting to the law for man—the first step in the path of suffering which was to make the Captain of our Salvation perfect. As to-day we kneel before the Altar, we see the first drops of Sacrificial Blood, the first stroke of the Sacrificial knife that was to slay the Lamb of God.

*Invitatory.* To-day our Lord was circumcised, and received the sweet Name of JESUS. *Alleluia!* O come let us adore Him.

1. To-day our Blessed Saviour, Who was Lord of the Law, and by His perfect purity absolutely exempt, suffered for us the pain of circumcision, and the dishonour of being reckoned among sinners. *Alleluia!*

2. To-day was given Him the Name that is above every name, that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, of things on earth, and things under the earth. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

3. O Blessed JESU, make good to us Thy precious Name, and save us from our sins, that now we may begin a new year of virtue, and cancel by repentance all the failings of the old. *Alleluia!*

#### *Antiphon.*

After eight days the Child was circumcised, and His Name called JESUS, as the angels had appointed before His conception in the Virgin's womb.

℣. Our Infant Lord endured the knife.

℞. To teach us to circumcise our hearts.

#### *Prayer.*

O God, Who for our example didst command Thy beloved Son to submit His pure and innocent flesh to the rigour of the law, teach us, we beseech Thee, with readiness and humility to obey Thy sacred laws, and in all our necessities to call on that holy Name, in which whatever we ask we are promised shall be granted; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Saviour. Amen.

**JANUARY 6.—EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD.**

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD.—The wall of partition is thrown down, the Star has appeared to the Gentile world; all alike may come and worship the King of Kings, bringing offerings of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Come we then with the wise of the earth and worship Him upon His Altar, with the gold of pure and ardent charity, the myrrh of penance and self-denial, the incense of praise and thankoffering, at the feet of Mary's Infant Son.

*Invitatory.* To-day the holy kings brought their presents to our Lord. *Alleluia.* O come, let us adore Him.

1. To-day the wise men were led by a star to the cradle of our Lord, and falling down, adored Him, and offered Him their presents of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

2. To-day our gracious Redeemer vouchsafed His presence at a marriage feast, and there first published to the world His Divine power, turning water into wine. *Alleluia!*

3. To-day our Blessed Saviour was baptized by S. John, and the Holy Ghost descended visibly upon Him; and a Voice was heard from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased." *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

Now were the first fruits of the Gentiles consecrated to our Lord, and that sacred prophecy happily fulfilled, "In His light shall the Gentiles walk, and kings in the brightness of His rising." *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

℣. The sages, entering, found the Child with Mary, His Mother.

℞. And, falling down, adored, and offered Him gifts.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who, by the guidance of a star in the heavens, broughtest the Gentiles to our Lord; grant, we humbly beseech Thee, that our hearts may be more earnestly fixed on Thy goodness, graciously working towards the accomplishment of Thy promises, to call at length the Jews and all the earth to the saving knowledge and love of the same Thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, Who, with, &c.

**JANUARY 25.—CONVERSION OF S. PAUL.**

S. PAUL, *Apostle and Martyr*, A.D. 67.—The persecutor of the infant Church, converted by a miracle of revelation, baptized by Ananias, he, subsequent to the “laying on of hands,” became the Apostle of the Gentiles, brought the Faith to Europe, worked many miracles, and, S. Austin says, about A.D. 57 regulated the rites for administering the Divine Mysteries, and forbad that any should receive the Body of our Lord in the evening or otherwise than fasting. S. Paul was beheaded at Rome the day of S. Peter’s crucifixion. Their bodies lie in the Grotto Vatican.

*Invitatory.* This day was the great Apostle of the Gentiles miraculously converted to the Christian Faith. *Alleluia!*

1. This day our Lord appeared from heaven in a glorious light, to the greatest persecutor of His Name, and made him with trembling cry out, “Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?” *Alleluia!*

2. He became a chosen vessel to bear the Name of Christ before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel.

3. He undauntedly preached and laboured more abundantly for the propagation of the Faith he had endeavoured to destroy, and at length laid down his life in its defence. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

The Apostle S. Paul bowed his head to the sword, *Alleluia!* and went to Christ, Who had so miraculously called him. *Alleluia!*

℣. He has preached, and lived, and died.

℞. And received his eternal reward.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who hast made the light of Thy Gospel to shine through the world by the preaching of Thy blessed Apostle S. Paul, whose miraculous conversion we now thankfully commemorate; grant, we humbly beseech Thee, that we may always keep in mind and diligently practise the doctrines he taught, and may resolutely follow his example, and being faithful unto death may at last receive crown of life and glory; thro’ our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

**FEBRUARY 2.—PURIFICATION OF B. V. M.**

The Purification, commonly called *Candlemas* from the ancient custom of carrying candles in procession, symbolic of the procession commemorated on this day, when Joseph and Mary bore the Light of the World to His Temple to present Him, and to offer the sin-offering; when, needing herself no purification, she fulfilled the law for sinners; and holy Simeon, discerning the Divinity through the Humanity, chanted his *Nunc Dimittis*.

*Invitatory.* To-day our Blessed Lord was presented in the Temple; *Alleluia!* O come, let us adore Him.

1. To-day the immaculate Mother humbled herself to the ordinary rites of purification, and presented her newly-born Jesus in the Temple, and for the little price of five shekels redeemed the world's inestimable Redeemer. *Alleluia!*

2. To-day the devout Simeon took our Lord in his arms, and sung aloud this glad farewell to all the world: "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy Word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation." *Alleluia!*

3. To-day the holy widow and prophetess Anna, who had spent her life in fasting and prayer, and in the service of the Temple, when she saw our Lord, gave thanks, and spake gloriously of Him to all them that looked for redemption in Israel. *Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

Behold, the Lord comes to His holy Temple! Be glad, O Sion, and rejoice to meet thy God!

*V.* He came in the disguise of a poor child.

*R.* Yet has He provided those that discern and attest Him.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who vouchsafest us this day to commemorate the Blessed Virgin's presenting herself to be purified in the Temple, and her Son to be redeemed according to the Law; give us grace so to follow these examples, that in our lives as well as with our words we may confess our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, to be the Light of the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel; Who, with, &c.



## FEBRUARY 24.—S. MATTHIAS.

S. MATTHIAS, *Apostle and Martyr*.—One of the seventy-two disciples of our Lord; previous to the Day of Pentecost elected into the College of the Apostolate, from whence Judas by transgression fell. He planted the Faith in Cappadocia and on the coasts of the Caspian Sea. He was stoned and beheaded in Colchis, which they call Ethiopia. S. Matthias was remarkable for inculcating the necessity for mortification of the flesh.

1. Let them that stand take heed lest they fall: Judas was an Apostle, yet he betrayed his Master and died in despair, and another took his office.

2. The Eleven nominated two for the vacant Apostleship, Barnabas and Matthias, and gave them lots and prayed.

3. They prayed, “Thou, Lord, Who knowest the hearts of all men, show of these two which Thou hast chosen;” and the lot fell on Matthias.

*Antiphon.*

The lot fell on Matthias, a constant follower of Jesus from the baptism of John to the day of his ascension; and he was numbered with the Eleven.

Ÿ. He lived their life, and died their death.

R. And sits with them in glory, to judge the twelve tribes of Israel.

*Prayer.*

O God, by Whose special grace the blessed Matthias was chosen to supply the place of the traitor Judas, and complete again the number of the Apostles; grant, we humbly beseech Thee, that, by our celebrating his memory, we may be enabled so to follow his virtues as to fill up the breaches made by our falling brethren, and help to accomplish the happy number of Thy elect; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.



## MARCH 19.—S. JOSEPH.

S. JOSEPH, *Husband of Mary*.—In reward for his persevering faith, he was permitted to be the first worshipper of the Presence of our Lord on the Altar of the manger-throne at Bethlehem. The guardian of the Sacred Infancy, under angelic guidance he led the Virgin and Child into Egypt, and afterwards returned with his charge to Nazareth, where his carpenter's shop was consecrated by the Presence of the Holy Boy, Whose last kiss was the Viaticum of S. Joseph.

1. This is that wise and faithful servant whom our Lord appointed over His family.

2. This is he who was honoured with the title of father of our Saviour, and spouse to the Blessed Virgin Mother.

3. This is he who knew how to order his life becoming these titles, with all reverence to their persons.

*Antiphon.*

This was the true Joseph, whom envy forced into Egypt to preserve the Bread of Life, whose chastity deserved espousals with purity itself, and to whom all the mysteries of Heaven were revealed.

Ÿ. Our Lord deemed him fit for His weightiest office.

R. And carried him perfectly through it to glory.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who hast rewarded the blessed S. Joseph with glory in Heaven, worthy those high graces vouchsafed him on earth, of spouse to the Blessed Virgin, and father to Thy Eternal Son, and faithful guardian to them both; grant, we beseech Thee, that as we celebrate his memory we may imitate the virtues of his holy life, and by the same perfect fidelity in whatever Thy Providence entrusts to our charge secure our hopes to attain hereafter the same everlasting felicity; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

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**MARCH 25.—ANNUNCIATION OF B. V. M.**

ANNUNCIATION OF THE B. V. M.—On this day God became Man. The first joyful Mystery of the Incarnation was revealed when the Angel sang the first *Ave*, and the all-pure Virgin accepted the heavenly message. She gave as her first example of acquiescence to the Divine will, “Behold the handmaid of the Lord! be it unto me according to Thy Word;” and she became the Mother of God. Upon the Altar to-day we worship our hidden God, and with those of all generations unite to call her Blessed.

*Invitatory.* To-day the Eternal Word was made flesh; O come, let us adore Him.

1. To-day the Archangel Gabriel was sent from God to the Virgin Mary, and, entering her little chamber, humbly presented her this honourable salutation: Hail, full of grace! our Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women.

2. Behold, thou shalt conceive and bear a Son, and thou shalt call His name Jesus; He shall be great, and called the Son of the Most High, and of His Kingdom there shall be no end.

3. Immediately the Blessed Virgin, secured of her chastity, gave consent to the glorious embassy: “Behold the handmaid of our Lord! be it to me according to Thy Word.”

*Antiphon.*

To-day the Holy Ghost came upon the Blessed Virgin, and the power of the Most High overshadowed her; and, untouched of man, she conceived the Son of God.

℣. Hail! Mary, full of grace.

℞. Blessed art thou among women.

*Prayer.*

O Eternal God, Who didst send Thy holy Angel in embassy to the Blessed Virgin, the Mother of our Lord, to manifest the Incarnation of Thine Eternal Son; grant us, we humbly beseech Thee, with such devout adoration to celebrate the memory of this highest mystery, as may feed and increase Thy charity begotten in our hearts by Thy Spirit, and ripen it to bring us forth partakers of His Divinity; Who, with, &c.

## APRIL 25.—S. MARK.

S. MARK, *Evangelist and Martyr*, A.D. 68.—Nephew of S. Peter, his fellow-labourer and amanuensis. Preached the Gospel in Italy, Rome, and Egypt. Taken during the celebration of Divine Service at Serapis, he was bound with cords, dragged through the streets and over the craggy places near that city, till his flesh being torn off he expired. His body was burnt, but his bones were collected by Christians and subsequently removed to Venice, that city adopting him as Patron Saint.

1. Blessed art thou, Mark! disciple of our Lord, and, after His Ascension, chief assistant to the Prince of the Apostles.

2. Blessed art thou, faithful writer of the Gospel of Peace, and doer of the work of an Evangelist, planting the Church at Alexandria.

3. Blessed be His grace Who has attested thy glory by numerous miracles for the Church by thy intercession, and carrying solemnly down the memory of that mercy throughout all generations.

*Antiphon.*

This is the second of those mystical beasts (like to a lion) with six wings round about, full of eyes within, that, before, behind, and in the midst of the Throne, rest not day nor night, saying, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Omnipotent! Who was, and is, and is to come.

*V.* How beautiful are the feet of those

*R.* That evangelize the Gospel of Peace.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who most graciously summonest Thy Church to special devotions, by the Feast of Thy Son's blessed disciple and Evangelist S. Mark; vouchsafe us, we humbly beseech Thee, both in heart to adore Thy Providence for so glorious an instrument of propagating the history of salvation to us, and in our lives duly to copy out and show our faith in his Gospel; and grant that our solemn commemorating Thy wonderful regard on this day to the prayers and humiliations of our Mother the Church, in her extremity, may encourage our hope and increase our merits to obtain, by the same means, the like favour from Thee in all her and our necessities; thro' our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## MAY 1.—SS. PHILIP AND JAMES.

SS. PHILIP AND JAMES.—S. Philip, the first called to leave all to follow his Master. He preached in Phrygia, and suffered at Hieropolis. S. James, Bishop of Jerusalem, A.D. 62, styled the Brother of our Lord, being the son of Mary, sister of the Blessed Virgin and of Alpheus. S. James was President of the first Council held at Jerusalem. He wrote one General Epistle, in which he enforced the Sacrament of Extreme Unction upon *all* the faithful.

1. Now it sufficeth thee, Philip, our Lord hath shewn thee the Father ; and henceforth and for ever thou shalt see Him face to face. *Alleluia !*

2. And thou, holy James, Brother of our Lord, art graciously happy in enjoying for ever the same blissful vision. *Alleluia !*

3. These are two of those precious stones that found and adorn the heavenly Jerusalem. *Alleluia !*

*Antiphon.*

S. Philip, both crucified and stoned, ascended to his Master ; and blessed James, the long-reverenced Bishop of Jerusalem, thrown down from the top of the Temple, and martyred with a club, breathed out his soul in prayer for his murderers.

*V.* The senseless world thought their end dishonourable.

*R.* But behold how high their lot is among the blessed.

*Prayer.*

O God, by Whose grace the blessed Apostles SS. Philip and James watered with their blood the heavenly seed which they had sown over the world, redouble, we beseech Thee, the devotions of Thy servants, by celebrating together their happy memories ; and grant that our faith, so gloriously confirmed, may bear forth the fruits of a holy life and death ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## JUNE 11.—S. BARNABAS.

S. BARNABAS, *Apostle and Martyr*, of the tribe of Levi, a native of Cyprus, called by special designation of the Holy Ghost to be set apart for the ministry, and sent as preacher to the Gentiles. For a time fellow-labourer of S. Paul, he considered his special mission to be the conversion of his own native island, and at Salamis he suffered martyrdom, after many tortures, by stoning. S. Barnabas was chosen as Patron Saint of Milan, and by some is considered founder of that Church.

1. Blessed and happy art thou, O Joses ! disciple of our Lord, and honoured by His Apostles, inscribed by them in the Book with the new name of Barnabas.

2. Let us this day bless the memory of S. Barnabas, who followed Christ though being rich in lands and possessions ; joyfully quitted all, that he might have a name written in Heaven.

3. Precious is the memory of the saint of this day, a faithful witness and martyr of Jesus Christ. To him we owe the name of Christian.

*Antiphon.*

“Peace be with you,” said he, “O sons and daughters, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who hath loved us in peace.”

Ÿ. Thus was the salutation of the Cyprian Apostle : let it in like manner be ours.

R. And as Christ has loved us in peace, so also let us love each other.

*Prayer.*

O Lord God Almighty, Who didst endow Thy holy Apostle Barnabas with singular gifts of the Holy Ghost, leave us not, we beseech Thee, destitute of Thy manifold gifts, nor yet of grace to use them alway to Thy honour and glory ; through our Lord Jesus Christ, Who, with, &c.

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**JUNE 24.—NATIVITY OF S. JOHN BAPTIST.**

NATIVITY OF S. JOHN BAPTIST, the forerunner of our Lord. His birth foretold by an angel, sanctified from his mother's womb by the visitation of the Mother of God, when S. John became the first worshipper of the hidden God in the humanity of Mary, dwelling in the wilderness from the age of five years. Preparatory to his entering upon his mission of preaching the Baptism of Repentance, S. John gave the antiphonal note to the Eucharistic Office, "Behold the Lamb of God!"

1. This is the great harbinger of the world's Redeemer, the miraculous son of age and barrenness. *Alleluia!*

2. In his mother's womb was he sanctified, and many shall rejoice at his birth. *Alleluia!*

3. This is that burning and shining light, who, despising the pleasures and conveniences of the world, chose his garments of camel's hair, and a girdle of leather about his loins, and whose food was locusts and wild honey. *Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

This is that prophet, and more than a prophet, of whom our Lord said, "Among them that are born of women, there hath not risen a greater; yet he that is least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he." *Alleluia!*

*V.* He shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb.

*R.* And many shall rejoice at his birth.

*Prayer.*

Almighty God, by Whose Providence we are summoned this day to celebrate the nativity of the great S. John Baptist, grant, we beseech Thee, that as we fulfil the prophecy of the holy angel by rejoicing in his nativity, we may, by following his teaching and by imitating his holy life, truly repent according to his preaching; and, after his example, constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through our Lord Jesus Christ, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.



## JUNE 29.—S. PETER.

S. PETER, *Apostle and Martyr*, A.D. 67, planted the Church in Antioch and Rome. Married before his vocation to the Apostleship, but one of the first to devote his love and zeal in counting all as nought to follow Christ, he was elected by his Lord, Primate of the future College of the Apostles. To S. Peter was more especially entrusted the care of the Church and the power of the Keys. He was crucified with his head downwards at Rome, June 29.

1. Thou art the pastor of the sheep, O Peter, Prince of the Apostles! To thee were delivered the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. *Alleluia!*

2. This is he who, when he was young, girded himself, and walked whither he would; but when he was old, another guided him, and carried him whither he would not. *Alleluia!*

3. This is he who taught us Thy law, O Lord; Thou shalt establish him prince over all the earth, and he shall publish Thy Name to the end of the world. *Alleluia!*  
*Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

To-day Simon Peter ascended the Cross. *Alleluia!*  
To-day the keeper of the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven joyfully passed to his Master. *Alleluia!*

Ÿ. He faithfully finished the race set before him. *Alleluia!*

R. And went to receive his eternal crown. *Alleluia!*

*Prayer.*

O God, Who this day vouchsafest to refresh and excite the devotions of Thy Church by the glorious festival of Thy Son's great Apostle, S. Peter, grant us, we beseech Thee, both humbly to adore Thy powerful Providence in rendering a frail man so firm a rock of saving truth, that the gates of hell shall not prevail against it, and duly submit to the supreme authority of the Church, which Thy infinite wisdom has ordained, as the fittest means to establish order and preserve unity amongst Christians; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.



**JULY 22.—S. MARY MAGDALENE.**

S. MARY MAGDALENE, *Patron Saint of Penitents*, to whom much was forgiven because she loved much—she who anointed our Lord's feet with ointment, she who was prostrate at the foot of the Cross when the precious Blood from the pierced side streamed through the yet clasped hands of the Blessed Mother and S. John upon the hair of her head. S. Mary Magdalene, the first to see her Lord after His Resurrection, the first worshipper of the risen Lord on Easter morn. S. Mary Magdalene accompanied S. Lazarus to Provence, and after thirty years of penance died in the wilderness of S. Baume.

1. Mary Magdalene lay at Jesus' feet, and made a fountain of her eyes and a towel of her hair to cleanse them. *Alleluia!*

2. She cleansed His feet, but more her own soul; and therefore deserved to hear these B. words from His mouth, "Thy sins, which are many, are forgiven thee." *Alleluia!*

3. She cleansed her soul by filling it with the pure love of Jesus, which thrust out all vain affections: her many sins were forgiven her, because she loved much. *Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

See the blest effects of hearty penance! Mary's advanced her to the privileges of hanging ever on her Jesus' lips, becoming the renowned anointer of His blessed head; for His funeral, His nearest attendant at His Cross and Grave; an eminent witness of his Resurrection and Ascension, and a high partaker of His eternal glory. *Alleluia!*

Ÿ. Martha was solicitous about many things, but heard that *one thing is necessary.*

R. Mary chose the best part, which was never taken from her.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who mercifully refreshest Thy Church's sense of our Saviour's tender and generous kindness for the truly penitent, by the Feast of the glorious S. Mary Magdalene, grant, we humbly beseech Thee, that her solemn memory may work its effects in us; quickening our faith and hope, that by daily advancing to love Thee much, like her, our sins, which are many, will also be forgiven us; and that we shall be favoured by Thee with full grace here, and glory hereafter; thro' our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

**JULY 25.—S. JAMES THE GREAT.**

S. JAMES THE GREAT, *Apostle and Martyr*, A.D. 44, brother of S. John, and son of Zebedee; one of the favoured three to witness the Transfiguration, and the first Apostle to win the crown of martyrdom. S. James preached the Gospel in Spain, but returned to Jerusalem, where he was put to death by Herod Agrippa. His body was subsequently removed to Compostella, in Spain, where he was taken as Patron Saint of Fishermen and a grotto shrine erected, which became a favourite pilgrimage annually to "Remember the grotto."

1. James, the son of Zebedee, when called by our Lord, immediately left his nets, his boats, his father, and kindred, and followed Jesus. *Alleluia!*

2. He so followed Jesus, that he alone was made worthy, with Peter and John, to be admitted to share in the most important mysteries of his Divine Master. *Alleluia!*

3. He freely confessed the Divinity of his Saviour, and by his joy at suffering death for His sake converted his accuser to be his companion in martyrdom. *Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

He was a "Son of Thunder;" one of the best beloved of our Lord's brethren; whom, the first of the Apostles, King Agrippa sent a martyr to his Master. *Alleluia!*

V. Blessed James now enjoys his mother's desire.

R. Seated at the right hand of Jesus in His Kingdom.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who by the Feast of Thy holy Apostle S. James, remindest us of Thy great mercy to the world, giving us so glorious an example of obedience to our Saviour in this life and out of it, grant, we humbly beseech Thee, that, at the call of Thy grace, we may show the same readiness to quit our nets, and all ties of worldly affection and interest, and that we may apply ourselves to become, and use our best endeavours to render others also, worthy disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth ever one God, world without end. Amen.

## JULY 26.—S. ANNE.

S. ANNE, *a holy Matron, and Mother of the Blessed Virgin*, and wife of Joachim; the great model of virtue to all engaged in the married state, and charged with the education of children; a lesson to all parents, that by the holy education of children they glorify God, perpetuate His honour to all ages, and save their own souls. "Grace was spread on her lips; therefore God hath blessed her for ever."

1. S. Anne, full of the Holy Ghost, exults, and cries, Rejoice with me, whose happy womb, freed from barrenness, has brought forth the Branch of Promise. *Alleluia!*

2. Blessed is He Who hears the prayers of His suppliants, and has made me the glorious mother of her whose virgin womb is heaven, in which He resided Whose immensity no space can contain. *Alleluia!*

3. I will pour out My Spirit on thy seed, and My blessing on thy offspring, saith our Lord. *Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

Rejoice, O glorious Matron, for thy prayers are heard, and thy barrenness comforted! thou hast brought forth the Mother of all our hopes, the Mother of Jesus. *Alleluia!*

Ÿ. Blessed art thou among women, O holy Anne!

R. And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Mary. *Alleluia!*

*Prayer.*

O God, Whose peculiar providence sanctified the womb of barrenness, and devout S. Anne to bear the Blessed among women, Thy Son's Virgin Mother, grant us, we humbly beseech Thee, in venerating her memory, to adore Thy free grace, which vouchsafed her so glorious a privilege from Thee, and so high an honour in Thy Church; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

## AUGUST 10.—S. LAWRENCE.

S. LAWRENCE, *Deacon and Martyr*, A.D. 258, suffered the persecution of Valerian, being scorched to death upon a heated rack in the form of a gridiron. S. Lawrence, who had been seized with a longing to share the martyrdom of his master and spiritual father, Pope Xystus, was only detained three days, that he might give a practical exemplification of the fact, "The treasures of the Church are Christ's poor," with whose care she is entrusted.

1. This is the glorious martyr S. Lawrence whose courage remained invincible in the midst of his torments. They broiled him on a gridiron, and he confessed our Lord; they tried him with fire, and he was found true. *Alleluia!*

2. They sought his treasures, but his charity had laid them out of their reach; the hands of the poor had carried them into Heaven. *Alleluia!*

3. While they were burning his flesh, he generously said to the tyrant, "I worship my God, and Him alone I serve; therefore I fear not thy torments."

*Antiphon.*

Blessed S. Lawrence, as he lay broiling on the gridiron, cried to the tyrant, "It is now enough, turn and eat; for the goods of the Church which thou requirest the hands of the poor have carried up into the heavenly treasure."

Ÿ. The saint attested whose servant he was.

R. By the sign of the Cross giving sight to the blind.

*Prayer.*

O God, by Whose grace the glorious Deacon S. Lawrence sustained the cruel torments of a lingering death rather than betray the goods of the Church, or deny the truths of the Catholic religion, grant us, we beseech Thee, in solemnizing his Feast, both to praise Thy Name for so great and early an example of Christian courage, and be strengthened by it, against all temptations, to preserve our fidelity to Thee and our spiritual truths; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

**AUGUST 15.—ASSUMPTION OF THE B. V. M.**

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.—A cloud of glory veils all from human sight, too dazzling for us to look upon ; we dare not rush in where Angels fear to tread. *We think* we hear the Angelic song, “ Who is she that riseth as the morning, fair as the moon and clear as the sun ? ” *We cannot* believe that *her* body could be allowed to see corruption. *We do* not believe that even in her flesh she is parted from her glorified Son. *We have* an assured faith that her prayers avail for us. But we are more than content to lie still to *bask* before the Altar in *silence*.

*Invitatory.* Come, let us adore the King of Saints, Whose Virgin Mother was assumed into Heaven. *Alleluia !*

1. To-day the Mother of our Lord was assumed into Heaven. *Alleluia !* And seated in glory above the highest angels. *Alleluia !*

2. Her sacred body, too pure to mix again with dust. *Alleluia !* Soon left the grave, and was carried up to her Eternal Mansion. *Alleluia !*

3. Behold, from henceforth, Mary, all generations shall call thee Blessed. *Alleluia !* For He that is mighty hath magnified thee : and Holy is His Name. *Alleluia !*

*Antiphon.*

Come forth now, all ye glorious angels and blessed saints of Heaven ! Come forth and behold your Queen, with the crown wherewith her Son has crowned her in the day of her espousals, in the day of the gladness of her heart ! *Alleluia ! Alleluia !*

℣. With glory and honour Thou hast crowned her, O Lord !  
℞. And for ever enshrined her, next her Son in His kingdom.

*Prayer.*

O God, Whose gracious providence would not suffer the sacred womb that bore Thy Holy One to see corruption, but, raising from the grave the Blessed Virgin's body, assumed it with her soul to the highest Throne in Heaven, grant, we beseech Thee, that devoutly celebrating the memory of this Thy grace to her, we may inure our minds to raise and fix themselves there, where at length we hope also to ascend ; through our Lord Jesus Christ, &c.

**AUGUST 24.—S. BARTHOLOMEW.**

S. BARTHOLOMEW, *Apostle and Martyr*, called by S. John, Nathaniel; of whom our Lord spake the words, "An Israelite indeed, in whom there is no guile." A native of Cana, and a doctor of the Jewish Law. He carried the Gospel into the remoter Indies, and finally removed into Great Armenia, where he was condemned by the Governor Albanopolis to be crucified, and then flayed alive.

1. His skin, and all he had, even life itself, S. Bartholomew freely gave for the testimony of the truth, and for the love of Jesus. *Alleluia!*

2. At the last day he shall rise, and be clothed again in his skin; and in his flesh he shall see God. *Alleluia!*

3. His body must remain a while in hope; but his soul went immediately away to enjoy the happy vision. *Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

This is that wise Apostle, who gladly put off his skin to enter in at the straight gate, and gave his head itself to receive a crown of glory. *Alleluia!*

Ÿ. He now triumphs with those who came out of great tribulation,

R. Clothed in robes washed white in the Blood of the Lamb.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who, by the martyrdom of Thy blessed Apostle, S. Bartholomew, dost refresh in our memories the glorious attestations which Thy providence has vouchsafed to the world for the confirmation of Thy truth, grant, we beseech Thee, that we may so reflect upon the great pains he took and suffered for the spread of the Gospel, and upon the exceeding great reward he now enjoys in Thy blissful presence, that our faith may be strengthened, and more actively applied to carry us on in the same race to the same happy end; through our Lord Jesus Christ, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.



**SEPTEMBER 8.—NATIVITY OF THE B. V. M.**

**NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.**—The Mother of God, the Immaculate and Ever Virgin. The Festival upon which all Catholic Christendom proclaim, and with one heart and voice from East and West unite in all generations to call her Blessed. As through *Eve* came the curse upon women, so in the angelic *Ave* all is reversed; and from henceforth all women have their perfect example, the foreordained from eternity to bear her Son.

*Invitatory.* Come, let us adore the King of Saints, Whose Virgin Mother was born to-day. *Alleluia!*

1. To-day was born the Blessed Virgin Mary, of the seed of Abraham, and tribe of Judah, and family of David. *Alleluia!*

2. To-day was born the Blessed Virgin Mary, Spouse of the Holy Ghost, and Mother of the Son of God, and Daughter of the Eternal Father. *Alleluia!*

3. Let all the world rejoice in the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary; *Alleluia!* of whom was born the Redeemer of all the world. *Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

Welcome to our dark world, thou Day-spring from on high! welcome, thou long-looked-for Orient to the Sun of Glory! *Alleluia!*

Ÿ. Behold the root of the tree of life. *Alleluia!*

R. Behold the source of the fountain of grace. *Alleluia!*

*Prayer.*

O God, Who this day callest us to celebrate her Nativity of whom Thy only Son did vouchsafe to take our flesh, and be born the world's Redeemer, grant us, we beseech Thee, so devoutly to rejoice in the dawn of her immaculate birth as may fitly more dispose us to behold and walk by her light, which every moment increasingly shined before men through the whole day of her life here, and follow its setting into eternal glory; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.



## SEPTEMBER 21.—S. MATTHEW.

S. MATTHEW, *Apostle, Evangelist, and Martyr*, A.D. 71.—Of the tribe of Levi, a publican and tax-gatherer upon the shores of the lake of Genesareth; called from his seat of custom, he left all to follow our Lord. S. Matthew compiled his Gospel at the command of the other Apostles before their dispersion into all the world; he preached in Persia and Ethiopia, and ended his course in Parthia, suffering martyrdom at the Altar, as he celebrated the Divine Mysteries, at Nadabar.

1. Be not discouraged, O my soul! nor make thy past offences unpardonable by despair.

2. This is he who from a sinner became a preacher, and who from a publican was called to be an Apostle.

3. Fear not the power of the grace of God, but take heed of delaying to embrace it; take heed of refusing to obey it; take heed of relapsing into the sins of which thou hast repented.

*Antiphon.*

S. Matthew the publican, when busy at his office, was called by Jesus passing by, and straightway arose, left all, and followed Him—a wise example to sinners; and for the encouragement of converts, Jesus Himself condescended to feast at his house with a great number of publicans.

Ÿ. Our Lord came not to call the righteous,

R. But sinners to repentance.

*Prayer.*

O God, by the power of Whose call Matthew the publican was drawn from the receipt of custom itself to become an eminent Apostle and Evangelist in the Church, grant, we beseech Thee, that we, in celebrating the blessed memory of his life and death, may advance Thy praise for so glorious an example of Thy grace, and permit, we pray Thee, that, complying readily and faithfully following it, we may forsake all for Thy service; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

**SEPTEMBER 29.—S. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.**

S. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.—This Festival, although especially naming the chief of the four princes of the angelic host, yet seeks and proclaims the union of the Church on earth with all those that are mighty in strength, and execute the orders of the King of Angels; and we pray to be assisted, not only by the intercessions of the blessed Michael, but each of us by his own guardian angel, and by all those ministering spirits sent forth to minister to us upon earth.

*Invitatory.* Come, let us adore the King of Angels.

1. He has commanded His angels to keep us in all our ways; they shall bear us in their hands, lest at any time we dash our feet against a stone. *Alleluia!*

2. Take heed that you despise not one of My little ones, saith our Lord, for their angels continually behold the Face of My Father Who is in Heaven. *Alleluia!*

3. In the sight of Thy angels will I sing unto Thee, O my God! *Alleluia!* I will worship in Thy Holy Temple, and confess unto Thy Name. *Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

Praise our Lord, all ye angels, archangels, and thrones, praise Him; all ye dominations, principalities, and powers, praise Him; all ye heavenly host of cherubin and seraphin, praise Him; all ye glorious choirs of blessed spirits, praise Him and magnify Him for ever. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Ÿ. Bright guardians, praise our Lord for us;

R. And help us to praise His grace for you.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who, by the Feast of S. Michael the Archangel, Prince of the Church, summonest us to commemorate all the glorious host of Heaven ranged under his banner to assist Thy elect against all the powers of darkness, grant us grace, we beseech Thee, to adore and praise Thee for their ministry and protection, so that we may with firmer hope pursue the holy way of increasing their joy by advancing our own bliss; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

OCTOBER 18.—S. LUKE.

S. LUKE, *Evangelist*, A.D. 74.—A native of Antioch, and fellow-labourer of S. Paul; a physician and painter, he consecrated both professions to the service of God. He preached in Italy, Gaul, and Macedon, and died, some think, by martyrdom at Bithynia. He is the only Evangelist to relate the particulars of the Incarnation in the mysteries of the Annunciation and Visitation, and from his pen alone we have the *Magnificat*. S. Luke, in his Gospel, insists most upon Christ's priestly office in offering the One Sacrifice.

I. We commemorate this day the great Apostle's disciple, and the constant companion in all his travels.

2. We celebrate the glory of him who is worthy of being divinely recorded: "*Luke, the most dear physician and brother, whose praise is in the Gospel through all the Churches.*"  
*Alleluia!*

3. To his inspired pen we owe the third sacred Gospel, and a faithful history of the Church's early days in the Acts of the Apostles. *Alleluia.*

*Antiphon.*

Worthy of high honour in the Church is this blessed Evangelist, who was chosen by the Teacher of the Gentiles to be one of the chief instruments of building it.

Ÿ. He is the third of those inspired writers

R. Who have written the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

*Prayer.*

O God, Whose special grace rendered Luke, the physician, a glorious disciple and evangelist by permitting him first to cure himself, and then to apply all his life and power to the cure of others' souls, grant us, we beseech Thee, by his blessed memory, encouragement to emulate the better gifts, sanctifying, if not changing, our temporal vocations to the highest spiritual advantage of ourselves and others; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, our only Saviour, Who, with, &c.

## OCTOBER 28.—SS. SIMON AND JUDE.

SS. SIMON AND JUDE, *Apostles and Martyrs*.—Of the former little is known beyond his Apostolate: he is believed to have suffered martyrdom in Persia. S. Jude preached in Judæa, Samaria, and Mesopotamia, and planted the Gospel in Libya. He returned to Jerusalem A.D. 62, after the martyrdom of his brother S. James, and assisted at the election of S. Simeon, also his brother as successor in the bishopric of Jerusalem. S. Jude wrote one General Epistle, in which he insists upon the duty of contending for the unchangeable Catholic Faith. He suffered in Persia.

1. These are they which planted the Church of God with preaching, settled it with miracles, and watered it with their blood. *Alleluia!*

2. They ventured their lives among barbarous nations, and converted vast regions to the Faith of Christ. *Alleluia!*

3. They rejected the flatteries of the world and despised the menaces of their persecutors, and are now eternally rewarded for all they did and for all they suffered.

*Antiphon.*

The disciple is not above his Master, nor the servant above his Lord; it sufficeth the disciple if he be as his Master, and the servant as his Lord.

Ÿ. If they have blasphemed and slain the Master of the house,

R. How much more them of His household?

*Prayer.*

O God, Who by a glorious martyrdom didst call the blessed Apostles, Simon and Jude, from their eminent labours in Thy vineyard to a blissful rest in Thy kingdom, grant us Thy grace, we beseech Thee, to improve this opportunity of devoutly celebrating their memories by praising Thee for such excellent instructors, and pressing more lively on ourselves their saving doctrine and examples; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

**NOVEMBER 1.—ALL SAINTS.**

ALL SAINTS.—Upon this precious Festival we are called to gather up into one garland the flowers of the whole year, to sum up and intensify before the Altar our Eucharistic thank-offering for every soul passed into Paradise—martyrs, confessors, saints of every age and place, those who have fought and won the battle with those spotless gems gathered, in the purity of their baptismal robes, to the land of rest and peace; and on this Festival we seem specially united before the Altar with all the company of Heaven.

*The same as in the Office of Saints.*

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**NOVEMBER 2.—ALL SOULS.**

ALL SOULS.—A Holy Day set apart for the remembrance of those departed in God's true Faith: blessed are the dead from *henceforth*—from the moment of dissolution, when their Christian souls obeyed the command to depart, and stood face to face with Him they had held converse with upon His Altar, yet who still, in the intermediate state, await their final consummation and bliss. Upon this day, holding close converse with our beloved ones, we cry aloud before the Altar, "Grant them, Lord, eternal rest, light, and refreshment!"

*The same as in the Office for the Departed.*

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## THE MOVEABLE FEASTS,

*Which have no fixed place in the Calendar, as the rest there mentioned have, but vary every year from one day of the month to another, according to the position of Easter and the changes of the Moon, whereupon that day doth depend.*

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*Easter Day is always the first Sunday after the Full Moon, which beginneth next the Equinoctial of the Spring in March.*

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EASTER DAY.

EASTER MONDAY.

EASTER TUESDAY.

ASCENSION DAY.

WHITSUN DAY.

WHIT-MON DAY.

WHIT-TUES DAY.

TRINITY SUNDAY.

CORPUS CHRISTI.

## A TABLE OF MOVEABLE HOLY DAYS.

Year of our Lord.	Ash Wednesday.	Easter Day.	Ascension Day.	Whit Sunday.	Corpus Christi.	First Sunday in Advent.
1869	Feb. 10	Mar. 28	May 6	May 16	May 27	Nov. 28
1870	Mar. 2	April 17	May 26	June 5	June 16	Nov. 27
1871	Feb. 22	April 9	May 18	May 28	June 8	Dec. 3
1872	Feb. 14	Mar. 31	May 9	May 19	May 30	Dec. 1
1873	Feb. 26	April 13	May 22	June 1	June 12	Nov. 30
1874	Feb. 18	April 5	May 14	May 24	June 4	Nov. 29
1875	Feb. 10	Mar. 28	May 6	May 16	May 27	Nov. 28
1876	Mar. 1	April 16	May 25	June 4	June 15	Dec. 3
1877	Feb. 14	April 1	May 10	May 20	May 31	Dec. 2
1878	Mar. 6	April 21	May 30	June 9	June 20	Dec. 1
1879	Feb. 26	April 13	May 22	June 1	June 12	Nov. 30
1880	Feb. 11	Mar. 28	May 6	May 16	May 27	Nov. 28

NOTE.—The last year in each of the above divisions will be Leap Year.



## MOVEABLE FESTIVALS.

## EASTER DAY.

EASTER, from the Saxon word "Oster" (to rise)—the Paschal Feast, of which the Jewish Passover was the type—the day upon which our Lord's Resurrection was to be commemorated by the Church, was finally settled and received in the Western Council of Mecca. The third day He rose again! Well may we all go with S. Mary Magdalene before it is light, and, amidst the incense of the garden flowers, wait to hear our own names called, and fall down before His Altar and own Him, in the Sacrament of His love, Master and Lord of all!

1. Christ is risen from the dead; *Alleluia!* and become the first fruits of them that slept. *Alleluia!*

2. The Lord of Life is risen again; *Alleluia!* and has clothed Himself with immortal glory. *Alleluia!*

3. He that raised up Jesus will also raise up us; *Alleluia!* and transform our vile flesh into the likeness of His glorious Body. *Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing for ever and ever. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*V.* O Death, where is thy sting?

*R.* O Grave, where is thy victory?

*Prayer.*

O God, Whose gracious providence restores to Thy Church the face and voice of holy exultation, by the triumphant Festival of our Saviour's Resurrection, grant, we humbly beseech Thee, that the joy which shines in our looks may flame in our hearts, and by purifying them make us worthy of those high and glorious hopes, so firmly sealed to us by this day's experience, of rising at last from our graves, and rejoicing thenceforth for ever in a state of blissful immortality; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

**EASTER MONDAY AND TUESDAY,**  
AND ALL SUNDAYS AFTER TILL ASCENSION.

1. Our Lord, that was dead and buried, rose the third day; *Alleluia!* loosing the sorrows of hell, according as it was impossible that He should be holden of it. *Alleluia!*

2. He left His grave, but not our earth; *Alleluia!* till He had raised a cloud of witnesses to His Resurrection. *Alleluia!*

3. Every day of forty He appeared to some or other of His disciples; *Alleluia!* to confirm their faith and open their understandings, and prepare their hearts to bear His Ascension from them. *Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

Christ the third day rose from the dead, according to the Scriptures, and was seen of Cephas, after that of the Eleven, then of more than five hundred brethren together; moreover of James, then of all the Apostles.

Ÿ. Thy testimonies, O Lord, are rendered even too credible;

R. By so great a cloud of witnesses encompassing us.

*Prayer.*

O God, Whose gracious providence established the important faith of our Lord's Resurrection, by His frequent conversing with His disciples and followers for the period of forty days; grant, we humbly beseech Thee, that by our rising from dead works and conversation we may daily more and more attest this glorious mystery, and advance that great day when, no longer by faith, but with these very eyes, we shall see Him for ever; Who, with, &c.

*Say this Ÿ., R., and Prayer every week-day also by way of commemoration.*

### ASCENSION DAY.

ASCENSION DAY.—The Festival that certifies to us our share in the blessings of the Incarnation. Our Lord is gone up in human form with those precious wounds to plead for us; He is gone to prepare a place for us, and to send His Holy Spirit to guide and direct His Church for ever. When upon this Festival the Holy Spirit broods over the Altar, we, with the Apostles, gaze into the cloud that veils Him from our eyes, and listen to the song of the angelic choir: “He has conquered Death and Sin; take the King of Glory in.”

*Invitatory.* To-day our glorious Jesus ascended into Heaven; *Alleluia!* O come, let us adore Him!

1. I have finished the work which My Father commanded Me, and now it is time I return to Him that sent Me. Let not your hearts be troubled; I go to My Father and your Father, to My God and your God. *Alleluia!*

2. Let not your hearts be troubled; I go to prepare a place for you: and I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am there may My servants be. *Alleluia!*

3. Meanwhile I will not leave you desolate, but will pray to My Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, to abide with you for ever. *Alleluia!*

#### *Antiphon.*

Why stand we looking downwards on the things of this world? Behold, the Lord is ascended into Heaven, and sits in glory at the right hand of His Father; *Alleluia!* Why stand we idle, with our accounts unprepared? Behold, the same Jesus shall come again to judge the living and the dead, and shall give to everyone according to his works. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

℣. All His disciples saw Him ascend, till a cloud received Him out of their sight.

℞. All the world shall see Him coming in the clouds of Heaven, with power and great glory. *Alleluia!*

*Prayer.*

O God, Who hast inspired Thy Church to celebrate on this day the memory of our Saviour's Ascension, when, having finished on earth the great work of our redemption, He carried up His glorified Humanity above the clouds to its eternal rest; grant, we beseech Thee, that, taking off our eyes from the vanities here below, we may stand continually looking after Him, and, expecting His coming again at the last great day, may be always ready to obey His call to meet Him in the clouds, and to follow Him into those blissful mansions which He went to prepare for us; Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever One God, world without end. Amen.

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**WHIT SUNDAY, MONDAY, AND TUESDAY.**

WHIT SUNDAY, so called from its being the custom for those yesterday baptized to assist at Mass in their white garments: the Feast of Pentecost (or, in Greek, "fiftieth"), when in that upper room the promised day was fully come, the Blessed Mother and the chosen Twelve assembled, the Holy Spirit filled the house, and in tongues of fire sat upon each, giving them utterance, the gift of language to convert all nations, to carry peace to all hearts. Earnestly at the Altar this day we entreat the same Spirit to shed on us His sevenfold gifts.

*The same as in the Office of the Holy Ghost.*

*And all the week after only commemorate.*

### TRINITY SUNDAY.

TRINITY SUNDAY.—To-day we sum up all our faith and celebrate the Mystery of Mysteries, chanting the Holy, Holy, Holy! and with the Holy Catholic Church unite with one voice to acknowledge the glory of the Blessed co-equal, co-eternal Trinity, Three Persons in One God, and bow before the Altar to praise Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*Invitatory.* Come, let us adore the Sacred Trinity, Three Persons in One God. *Alleluia!*

1. There are Three that bear witness in Heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these Three are One. *Alleluia!*

2. The Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Ghost is God; yet are they not Three Gods, but One God. *Alleluia!*

3. In this adorable Trinity none is afore or after, none greater or less than another; but all the Three Persons are co-equal together, and co-eternal. *Alleluia!*

#### *Antiphon.*

To Thee the Eternal Father, made by none; to Thee the Incarnate Son, begotten by the Father alone; to Thee the Blessed Spirit, proceeding from the Father and the Son; One Holy, Consubstantial, and Undivided Trinity, be ascribed all power and wisdom and goodness, now and for ever. *Alleluia!*

℣. Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth!

℞. Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Thy glory. *Alleluia!*

#### *Prayer.*

O Eternal Father, Who, by the visible descent of Thy Son to redeem the world, and of Thy Holy Spirit to sanctify the elect, hast wonderfully made Thy Church's own experience facilitate our faith of the incomprehensible Trinity, grant us, we beseech Thee, in heart and voice to profess this most high and supernatural truth, and humbly adore Thee, Three every-way co-equal Persons in the same indivisible Deity, till we come hereafter to Thy blissful Presence, and see the mystery revealed in Thine Own glorious Face; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## CORPUS CHRISTI.

CORPUS CHRISTI.—This Festival, celebrated on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday, was instituted the middle of the thirteenth century by Urban IV., as an annual protest against infidelity on a most vital point of Christian Faith, and to give all the faithful an opportunity of expressing their thankfulness for the unfailing promise of our Lord to be with His Church to the end of the world. This Festival is not observed by the Eastern Church: possibly the True Faith has been less assailed; the worship is One—all re-echo, “Blessed Sacrament, we thee adore!”

1. I am the living Bread that came down from Heaven, if any one eat of this Bread he shall live for ever, and the Bread which I will give is My Flesh, for the life of the world. *Alleluia!*

2. Except ye eat the Flesh of the Son of Man, and drink His Blood, ye have no life in you. *Alleluia!*

3. He that eateth My Flesh and drinketh My Blood hath eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. *Alleluia!*

*Antiphon.*

O sweet and sacred Feast, wherein Christ Himself is received, and the memory of His Passion renewed! our minds are filled with grace, and our future glory secured to us with a dear and precious pledge. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Ÿ. In the strength of this Bread we walk. *Alleluia!*

R. Even to the Mountain of God. *Alleluia!*

*Prayer.*

O God, Whose infinite mercy has wonderfully ordered the very Body of our Saviour, which gloriously sits at Thy right hand in the heavens, to become still the daily object of our adorations on earth, grant us, we beseech Thee, so devoutly to celebrate this glorious Festival as may sanctify us every day to feed more strongly with it our faith, and hope, and charity, and raise in us a higher appetite of that clear unveiled vision to which our hidden God thus miraculously now condescends to invite us; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

THE FASTING DAYS OF THE CHURCH,  
OR  
DAYS OF SPECIAL ABSTINENCE AND DEVOTION.

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*Advent Sunday is always the nearest Sunday to the Feast of S. Andrew, whether before or after.*

ADVENT.

LENT.

Ash Wednesday.  
Passion Sunday.  
Palm Sunday.

Maundy Thursday.  
Good Friday.  
Holy Saturday.

EMBER DAYS.

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, after the First Sunday in Lent.  
" " " " the Feast of Pentecost.  
" " " " Holy Cross Day  
" " " " S. Lucy's Day.

ROGATION DAYS.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday before Holy Thursday.

FASTING EVES, OR VIGILS.

Christmas, Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost, Purification, Annunciation, Nativity of S. John Baptist; SS. Matthias, Peter, James, Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon and Jude, Andrew, Thomas, All Saints.

*It hath been also an ancient religious custom to fast all the Fridays of the year, except those that fall within the twelve days of Christmas.*



# The Proper of Fasts.

## SUNDAYS IN ADVENT.

ADVENT is a season of penance set apart by the Church to prepare us for the Festival of Christmas; and it is believed that the observance of these four weeks can be traced to Apostolic origin. The word Advent signifies *coming*, and we are led to fix our thoughts upon the two comings of our Lord—first, in His humility; secondly, on His future coming in glorious majesty. The Collects for the Second and Fourth Sundays in Advent sufficiently mark their comparative antiquity, and need no comment. The Church prohibits marriages during the season of Advent.

*Invitatory.* Behold, the day of our Lord draws nigh. O come, let us adore Him!

1. Behold, our Lord will appear, and not fail to make good His promises: though He delay a while, expect Him, for He will surely come and deliver us. *Alleluia!*

2. Come, O Thou Sun of Justice and Fountain of Eternal Light! come and enlighten those that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and guide our feet into the paths of peace. *Alleluia!*

3. Come, O Thou hope of the Gentiles, and the desired of all nations! come and redeem us from the slavery of sin, into the only true liberty of serving Thee. *Alleluia!*

### *Antiphon.*

Prepare now thy ways, O my soul, before our Lord! make thy paths straight before the face of our God; for He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead, and blessed are all they who are ready to meet Him. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Ÿ. Our Lord is come to redeem the world.

R. Our Lord will come to judge the world.

### *Prayer.*

O God, by Whose providence Thy Church has appointed the solemn time of Advent to precede the commemoration of our Saviour's Nativity, and prepare its way in our hearts, grant us, we humbly beseech Thee, so devoutly to employ this holy season in meditating on the prophecies and gracious preparations of the world for the coming of the Messiah, and on the infinitely greater mercies He brought along with Him, and has left behind Him;

that our spirits may be raised to celebrate the great Feast with joy and fervour, and thereby better disposed to expect His second coming ; Who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, lives and reigns one God, world without end. Amen.

### WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS IN ADVENT.

*Invitatory.* Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousand of His saints. Come, let us adore Him !

1. Awake ! awake ! put on thy strength, O my soul ! shake thyself from the dust of the earth : arise, and meet thy Lord !

2. Behold, thy God cometh ! put on thy garment of righteousness, and gird up thy loins : prepare to meet thy Saviour, O Zion !

3. The Lord is at hand ; let us judge nothing before the time. The hidden things of darkness will He bring to light, and the counsels of all hearts will He manifest ; and His saints shall have praise of Him. *Alleluia !*

#### *Antiphon.*

Come, O Thou Sun of Righteousness, the most beautiful and true Light, whereof this light of the visible sun is but a shadow ! shine in our darkness. O come forth out of Thy chamber as a bridegroom !

Y. Let nothing hide itself from the light of Thy truth.

R. Let there be nothing hid from the heat of Thy love.

#### *Prayer.*

Grant, O God, we beseech Thee, unto us and Thy whole family, for which Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, came into our flesh, that we so cast away at this time the work of darkness, and daily endeavour to follow the steps of His most holy life, walking here in His light ; that when He shall come again, we may be found an acceptable people in Thy sight, being renewed after His image, and so may be carried up to life and light everlasting ; through Him Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. Amen.

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**THE FIRST DAY IN LENT, OR THE SPRING FAST,**

COMMONLY CALLED

**A S H - W E D N E S D A Y.**

Forty days not only in commemoration of our Lord's miraculous fast, it is the mystic number ever connected with seasons of humiliation: from the earliest days of Christianity we hear of the Anti-Paschal Fast. Upon Ash-Wednesday, or *Caput Jejunii*, we enter upon this penitential season; no longer marked, as of old, by open or public penance, but strictly binding upon everyone who would follow our Lord's steps to Calvary.

*Invitatory.* Come, let us fast, and mourn, and pray; for our Lord is merciful and just.

Remember, O man! that dust thou art, and into dust thou shalt return.

*Antiphon.*

All flesh is grass, and the pride thereof as the flower of the field: the grass withers, and the flower fades, and leaves the naked soul to judgment.

*V.* Remember, man, that dust thou art;

*R.* And into dust thou shalt return.

*Prayer.*

O God, by Whose providence Thy Church provides the sober discipline of Lent, by the mortifying memento of the vile and frail matter we are made of, grant, we humbly beseech Thee, that the Cross of our Redeemer may lay all our proud conceits in the dust, and make flesh and blood feel itself highly honoured if, by whatever crosses or mortifications, it may be tempered and raised to become a fit instrument for ripening the soul in Thy love; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

## DURING LENT.

*After the prayer of the day at Matins and Vespers, say on all weekdays in Lent, till Passion Sunday—*

*Antiphon.*

Let us follow as we may our Divine Master in His forty days' retirement and fasting, Who needed not, as we, the means of religion, but all He did was for our example, that we might learn to fly from the danger of occasions, and take away the fuel from our passions, and by curbing the appetites of sense inure ourselves to obey the commands of reason.

*V̄.* Now let us take a just and holy revenge on our sins past.

*R.* And strive for the future to bring forth fruits meet for repentance.

*Prayer.*

O God, Whose gracious providence has ordained us to lighten the weight of our corrupt bodies, pressing down our souls, by the long and solemn abstinence of Lent, grant us, we beseech Thee, conscientiously to observe the wholesome discipline now prescribed for us, and with the due mortification of our flesh so to join the quickening of our spirit by frequent devotions, that all our carnal appetites may be fitted for burial in our Saviour's grace, and all our affections ready to rise with Him to immortality, at these sacred fasts for which this season is to prepare us; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Then say the Responsories as on Friday at Matins, page 56;  
Vespers, page 62.*

## THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT,

COMMONLY CALLED

## PASSION SUNDAY.

*To be said on Passion Sunday and during the week; and on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in Holy Week.*

PASSIONTIDE.—Nearer and nearer we approach the great and dreadful day; the solemnity of our contemplation must needs increase. The sounds of earth fading away through Lent should cease entirely (if it be possible), as “with loving hearts and footsteps slow to Calvary with Christ we go.” Bowed down with the weight of sin, revealed to the stricken soul during the earlier weeks of Lent, yet strengthened, if it may be, by the closer communing with our Jesus, we now, with stricter fasting and prayer, enter the gate of the Passion.

*Invitatory.* Behold the Passion of our Lord draws nigh. O come, let us adore Him!

1. Who will give water to my head, and a fountain of tears to my eyes, that day and night I may weep for my own sins, and for my Saviour’s sufferings?

2. What, O my Jesu! could our weakness want that Thou hast not done? What could our malice invent that Thou hast not suffered?

3. Far be it from us to glory in anything but the Cross of our Saviour, in Whom is our life, and health, and resurrection.

*Proper Lesson.* S. Matthew xxvi., xxvii.

*Antiphon.*

Look up, my soul, on thy crucified Lord! look up and see the utmost extremity of Divine love. Already with great suffering He hath laboured in the work of our redemption—in fasting and praying, in travelling and preaching, in doing miracles and bearing injuries; and now, to finish all with one incomparable charity, behold He prepares to suffer even death itself, and that death upon the Cross.

*V.* What, O Jesu! could our weakness want that Thou hast not done?

*R.* What could our malice invent that Thou hast not suffered?

*Prayer.*

O God, Who by the mortifying discipline of Lent hast graciously disposed us for the solemn season of closer preparation to celebrate the memory of our Saviour's bitter Passion, make us now, we beseech Thee, so devoutly to attend to and thoroughly to meditate upon every circumstance of this dread Mystery, that our Lord Jesus may appear crucified even before our eyes, and melt our hearts with such tender compassion as may kill in them all sin, the sole cause of His sufferings, and fit us by perfect love of Him for a happy part in His glorious Resurrection; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth one God, world without end. Amen.

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THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE EASTER,

COMMONLY CALLED

PALM SUNDAY.

PALM SUNDAY.—The day is observed in commemoration of the first procession attendant upon our Lord. He was coming into Jerusalem, in the midst of His chosen people. He was about to offer up the Sacrifice of Himself upon the Cross, to give for them His precious Blood. Well might the Hebrew children shout the loud Hosannas, and cut down palm and olive branches to strew them in the way. Shall the dumb animal in its kind for ever carry the banner-mark of Him Who rode in majesty upon the ass, and shall not we wave the consecrated palm?

*Invitatory.* To-day our Saviour entered Jerusalem in triumph. O come, let us adore Him!

1. Rejoice, O daughter of Sion! shout for gladness, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, thy King comes to thee; the Just One, and thy Saviour.

2. Strew the way for His triumph, and cry aloud, Hosanna! He comes to thee meek and lowly, and riding on a colt the foal of an ass.

3. Exult and cry, This is our Lord, Whom we have long expected; He Himself is come to redeem us! This is our God, Whom we have long looked for; let us sing and rejoice in His salvation.

*Antiphon.*

As Jesus rode to Jerusalem, a very great multitude spread their garments and boughs in the way, and cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest.

℣. If these had held their peace, the stones would have immediately cried out,

℞. And owned the Divine Author of so many gracious miracles.

*Sunday:* Proper Lesson. S. Matt. xxi. to v. 17.

*Monday:* Proper Lesson. S. Luke xxii., xxiii. to v. 53.

*Tuesday:* Proper Lesson. S. John xviii., xix.

*Wednesday:* Proper Lesson. S. Matt. xxvi., xxvii.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who by this day's solemnities revivest to us the memory of our Saviour's triumph, ushering in His Passion and Death, teach us, we beseech Thee, from this perfect instance, the fickleness of this world's chiefest glories; mortify our esteem of its best deserved applauses, and bring our hearts cheerfully to expect a Cross after them, as the highest way to our eternal glory with Thee; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. Amen.



### MAUNDY THURSDAY.

MAUNDY THURSDAY is so called from the first word of the Anthem *Mandatum, &c.*, S. John xiii. 34. The mandate given on this day by our Lord Himself has made Maundy Thursday precious beyond expression to all ages, for with the mandate "Do this," "Offer up this," came the priceless gift, His Body, His Blood; and we know He will be with us to the end of the world, in all countries, in all times, *the* daily food and sustenance, the source of our greatest happiness, the brightness that nothing can dim, in joy and sorrow what our hearts most cling to; our God, our life, our all in all! Blessed Sacrament, we thee adore! O make us love thee more and more.

*All as in the Thursday Office; but omit all Antiphons, Hymns, and Glory be—instead whereof, at the end of Psalm say, kneeling—*

Christ was made obedient to death for us.

*Proper Lesson.* S. Mark xiv. 12, and xv. 46.

#### *Antiphon.*

Our Lord Jesus rose from the table, and laid by His garments, and girt Himself with a towel, and poured water into a basin, and washed the feet of His disciples, and wiped them with the towel; which having done, He took His garments and sate down again, and said to them, Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Master and Lord, and you say well, for so I am; if therefore I, Who am your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you ought also to wash one another's; for I have given you an example, that, as I have done to you, you also do.

*Christ was made obedient to death for us.*

*Say the Benedictus (page 19) at Matins, and Magnificat (page 12) at Vespers; then repeat Antiphon; then kneel and say, Our Father, all silently. Then, in a low, grave tone, say—*

Ÿ. Have mercy upon me, O God, after Thy great goodness.

R. And according to the multitude of Thy mercies do away mine offences.

Ÿ. Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, and cleanse me from sin.

R. For I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is ever before me.

- Ȳ. Against Thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in Thy sight, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy saying, and clear when Thou art judged.
- R. Behold, I was shapen in wickedness, and in sin hath my mother conceived me.
- Ȳ. But, lo! Thou requirest truth in the inward parts, and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly.
- R. Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- Ȳ. Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness, that the bones which Thou hast broken may rejoice.
- R. Turn Thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds.
- Ȳ. Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
- R. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
- Ȳ. O give me the comfort of Thy help again, and stablish me with Thy free Spirit.
- R. Then shall I teach Thy ways unto the wicked, and sinners shall be converted unto Thee.
- Ȳ. Deliver me from blood guiltiness, O God, Thou that art the God of my health, and my tongue shall sing of Thy righteousness.
- R. Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall sing Thy praise.
- Ȳ. For Thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it Thee; but Thou delightest not in burnt-offerings.
- R. The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt Thou not despise.
- Ȳ. O be favourable and gracious unto Sion; build Thou the walls of Jerusalem.
- R. Then shalt Thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with the burnt-offerings and oblations; then shall they offer young bullocks upon Thine Altar. Amen.

*Prayer.*

Look down, O Lord, we beseech Thee, on this Thy family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ vouchsafest to be betrayed into the hands of the wicked, and undergo the torments of the Cross; Who, with, &c.

*And so for the two following days.*

**GOOD FRIDAY.**

GOOD FRIDAY.—Hitherto each *day* has been marked in this great week, but now we draw near the end it is no longer *days*—every *hour* teems with agonizing interest. Through the night we have watched in Gethsemane, and in the judgment-hall we have seen our Jesus at early morn led away to be crucified; at the third hour the iron enters through His precious hands. We worship those bleeding wounds: we listen! word by word. Drop by drop falls the precious Blood: He bequeaths His Mother to His Apostolic Church, and at the ninth hour *consummatum est*.

*All as in the Friday Office; but omit all Antiphons, Hymns, and Glory be—instead whereof, at the end of Psalm say, kneeling—*

Christ was made obedient unto death for us, even the death of the Cross.

*Proper Lesson.* S. Luke xxii. 1 to xxiii. 53.

*Antiphon.*

Look up, my soul, on thy crucified Lord; look up, and see the utmost extremity of Divine love; already He has carried on to a fair degree the work of our redemption, in fasting and praying, in travelling and preaching, in working miracles and bearing injuries; and now, to finish all with one incomparable charity, behold! He suffers death itself, even death upon the Cross.

*Say the Benedictus (page 19) at Matins, and Magnificat (page 12) at Vespers; then repeat Antiphon; then kneel and say—*

*Christ was made obedient unto death for us, even the death of the Cross.*

*Our Father.            Have mercy.            Look down.*

*And so end, as on Maundy Thursday.*

**HOLY SATURDAY.**

*All as in the Saturday Office; but omit all Antiphons, Hymns, and Glory be—instead whereof, at the end of Psalm say, kneeling—*

Christ was made obedient unto death for us, even the death of the Cross; wherefore also God has exalted Him, and given Him a Name above every name.

*Proper Lesson.* S. John xviii. 19.

*Antiphon.*

Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is thy victory? Death, where is thy sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God, Who has given us victory by our Lord Jesus Christ! Let us therefore be stable and immovable, abounding always in the work of our Lord, knowing our labour is not in vain in our Lord.

*Say the Benedictus (page 19) at Matins, and Magnificat (page 12) at Vespers; then repeat Antiphon; then kneel and say—*

*Christ was made obedient unto death for us, even the death of the Cross; wherefore also God has exalted Him, and given Him a Name above every name.*

*Our Father.            Have mercy.            Look down.*

*And so end, as on Maundy Thursday.*

### EMBER DAYS.

EMBER DAYS.—It is doubtful whether the word is derived from the ancient religious custom, on days of fasting, of eating cakes baked in the *embers*, called bread, or from a Saxon word denoting “*course*.” These Fasts, coming “in course,” were finally settled at the Council of Placentia, 1095, to be observed in the weeks after the first Sunday in Lent, Whit Sunday, Holy Cross, and S. Lucy’s Festivals, the object being for all Christians, in fasting and prayer, to make supplication on behalf of those about to receive Holy Orders, that, coming to this Sacrament with single and devoted hearts, the Holy Ghost may come down upon them as on the Day of Pentecost.

#### *Antiphon.*

The harvest is great, but the labourers few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send labourers into His harvest, says our Lord.

℣. How shall we hear without a preacher?

℞. And how shall they preach unless they be sent?

#### *Prayer.*

O God, by Whose providence Thy Church, from the beginning, has set apart certain times for the solemnity of conferring the Holy Sacrament of Order, to supply still the faithful with sanctified masters of her doctrine and discipline, and enjoined us all, with extraordinary devotions, to implore Thy special assistance to a work so much concerning us all; hear, we humbly beseech Thee, Thy servants, by the mortifications of our bodies desiring to increase the fervour of our prayers, that Thou wouldst vouchsafe, our Governor, the Giver of discerning spirits, to ordain only such as are indeed fit for their sacred functions, and us the grace of reverence and due subjection to these so ordained, as truly sent by Thee for our edification; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Then say the Responsories as on Friday at Matins, page 56; Vespers, page 62.*

### ROGATION DAYS.

ROGATION DAYS (from "Rogare"—to ask or pray).—The three days preceding the Festival of the Ascension having previously been adopted in special dioceses, were ordered in the sixth century, by the First Council of Orleans, to be observed by the whole Church, to entreat a blessing upon the fruits of the earth, and exemption from plague, pestilence, and famine. *Supplications* or Litanies, called by the Latins *Rogations*, were chanted in processions by priests and people round their parishes. The religious element has for a time disappeared from England, but the shadow of the custom is retained in beating the bounds.

#### *Antiphon.*

If you ask the Father anything in My Name, He will give it you, says our Lord, Whose Word cannot fail; if you ask and receive not, it is because you ask amiss.

Ÿ. Father, Thou knowest we need all these things;

R. But more, by these our needs, to be drawn to look up to Thee.

#### *Prayer.*

O God, by Whose Holy Spirit Thy Church ordains this a solemn time of supplication for all our necessities, open, we humbly beseech Thee, Thy gracious ears to the prayers Thou inspirest and drawest from our hearts, and by granting us these goods which Thy children with humility and resignation ask of Thee their Heavenly Father, so encourage our devotion and obedience, and so increase our hope and love, that transcending all particulars, as safely to be trusted in the hands of Thy providence, our whole souls may thirst after Thee, Thyself alone, Who art our all in all for ever; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

### FASTING EVES.

FASTING EVES, or *Vigiliæ*, originally kept in the churches preparatory to receiving the Lord's Body before daybreak. At the beginning of the sixth century the public Vigil, in its continuance through the night, was abolished, but the Eves of Festivals are still observed with prayer and fasting, with the intention of seeking conformity to the lives of the saints who, through suffering, entered into joy; and that, commemorating them in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament upon their Festivals, we may attain unto their perfection.

#### *Antiphon.*

Behold, the Feast of ..... is at hand; let us timely prepare our hearts to entertain it, that so gracious a help to devotion be not lost upon us.

*V.* Before prayer, prepare thy soul;

*R.* And be not as one that tempts God.

#### *Prayer.*

O God, Who inspirest Thy Church to fill and sanctify the year with Festivals, memorials of our Saviour and His most exemplary followers, and to excite and introduce our devotions to each Feast by the wholesome discipline of a religious Fast; grant us Thy servants, we most humbly beseech Thee, brought again to the Eve of ....., by this day's obedient mortification of our carnal appetites, to call in and purify our souls, and fitly dispose them for the fruitful celebration of to-morrow's great solemnity; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*Then say the Responsories as on Friday at Matins, page 56; Vespers, page 62.*

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## Common of Martyrs.

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*May be said on the following Holy Days :—*

SS. ALBAN, ALPHEGE, BLASIVS, BONIFACE, CHARLES, CLEMENT, CRISPIN, CYPRIAN, DENYS, EDMUND, EDWARD, FABIAN, GEORGE, LAMBERT, LUCIAN, NICOMEDE, VALENTINE, VINCENT; SS. AGATHA, AGNES, CECILIA, FAITH, KATHARINE, LUCY, MARGARET, PERPETUA, PRISCA.

*All as in the Office of Saints, except*

### *Antiphons.*

1. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life, saith the Lord.

2. Father ! I will that where I am, there may also My servants be.

3. If any one would come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his Cross and follow Me.

### *Prayer.*

O God, Who hast graciously permitted us to celebrate the Festival of the holy Martyr S. ...., mercifully grant that we may so follow *his* blessed example that we may hereafter dwell with *him* in eternal glory; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ÿ. Precious in the sight of the Lord

R. Is the death of His saints.

## MEMORIALS OF MARTYRS.

AGATHA, *Virgin Martyr*, A.D. 251: *Feb. 5*.—Of noble Sicilian parentage, she was early consecrated to God. Her beauty and riches excited the cupidity of Quintianus, the Consul, but Agatha declined all offer of earthly marriage, declaring her heavenly betrothal, for which she was subjected to the most fearful tortures; but, remaining true to her first love, she received the crown of martyrdom at Catana, in Sicily.

AGNES, *Virgin Martyr*, A.D. 305: *Jan. 21*.—From her earliest years devoted herself to the Heavenly Bridegroom, resisting the most enticing proffers of marriage and earthly honours. She was equally unmoved by the most awful tortures. At thirteen years of age she triumphed over her enemies by a glorious martyrdom at Rome, under Diocletian, and is revered in all ages as the Patron Saint of the Pure in Heart.

S. ALBAN, *Proto-Martyr of England*, A.D. 303: *June 17*.—A native of Verulam, of noble family, educated at Rome; whilst still a stranger to the Christian Faith, was hospitable and liberal, and received the grace of conversion in reward for a corporal work of mercy. "Entertaining strangers," Alban unawares received a S. Amphibalus, through whose teaching he embraced Christianity, and for whose personal safety he disguised himself in the priest's cloak and offered himself for martyrdom.

S. ALPHEGE, *Bp. & Mart.*, A.D. 1012: *Ap. 19*.—Devoted himself to God in the monastery of Derherste, Gloucester; we afterwards find him working the reformation of the abbey at Bath. S. Dunstan having had it revealed to him in a dream that Alphege was chosen, he insisted upon his accepting the bishopric of Winchester; he was afterwards translated to Canterbury, and was martyred by the Danes in their siege of that city. Alphege was buried in S. Paul's, London, but his remains subsequently restored to Canterbury.

BLASE, *Bishop and Martyr*, A.D. 316: *Feb. 3*.—Bishop of Sebaste, in Armenia; crowned with martyrdom in the persecution of Licinius by the command of Agricolanus, Governor of Cappadocia, being torn in pieces with iron combs, which may have decided the wool-combers upon choosing S. Blase as titular patron of their trade. He has received special devotion in the city of Norwich, England.

BONIFACE, OR WINFRED, *Bishop and Martyr*, A.D. 755: *June 5*.—Born at Crediton, in Devon; educated to the age of thirteen in the monastery of Exeter, subsequently at Nutcell; consecrated Archbishop of Mentz, and commissioned by Pope Gregory II. to preach the Gospel in Germany, of which country he is called the Apostle; put to death by the infidels on the plains of Dockum, in East Friesland, as he was about to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to recent converts.

S. CECILIA, *Martyr*, A.D. 230: *Nov. 22*.—A native of Rome; married Valerian, a nobleman, whom she converted to the Faith: he was beheaded, and Cecilia within a few days followed her husband through the glorified gate of martyrdom. Their bodies lie in the catacombs beneath the church of S. Calisto at Rome. She is the Patron Saint of Sacred Music.

CHARLES STUART, *King and Martyr*, A.D. 1649: *Jan. 30*.—A true defender of the Faith, a martyr in the cause of England's Catholicity, he suffered at the hands of a godless and Puritan faction, of which John Bradshawe was the President, the object being to *disestablish* and uproot both Church and Throne. Bradshawe, Ludlow, Ireton, Cromwell, Lambert, and their supporters, have found more successors in England in their respective positions than has "our own, our royal saint." Charles was the author of ΕΙΣΩΝ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ.

S. CLEMENT, *Bishop and Martyr*, A.D. 100: *Nov. 23*.—Third Bishop of Rome; mentioned by S. Paul as a fellow-labourer whose name is in the Book of Life. He wrote several Epistles, which have been esteemed by many inspired. There is no authentic record of the manner of his martyrdom.

S. CRISPIN, *Martyr*, A.D. 287: *Oct. 25*.—With his brother Crispinus, natives of Rome, came to preach the Gospel in Gaul towards the middle of the third century, fixing their residence at Soissons. In imitation of S. Paul, they both preached the Faith and worked with their own hands. They followed the trade of shoemakers, and they were convened before Rictius Varus by order of Maximinian, and condemned to death by the sword. Crispin is still revered in Northamptonshire as Patron of Shoemakers.

S. CYPRIAN, *Archbishop and Martyr*, A.D. 258: *Sept. 26*.—Commemorated in the Roman and Greek Calendars on Sept. 16. For the good of the Church he fled from place to place during the persecution of Decias, but was ultimately banished to Carubus, fifty miles from Carthage; subsequently recalled, again apprehended, and sentenced to death. He was beheaded in a forest a few miles from Carthage, in the persecution of Valerian, after witnessing a most glorious confession.

S. DENIS or DIONYSIUS, *Bishop and Martyr*, A.D. 272: *Oct. 9.*—A Roman missionary sent into Gaul, fixed his see at Paris, founded Cologne and numerous other bishoprics. Denis suffered in the persecution of Valerian, being beheaded and his body cast into the Seine, but recovered and honourably interred by the Christians. He is the Patron Saint of France.

EDMUND, *King and Martyr*, A.D. 870: *Nov. 20.*—Crowned King of the East Angles at the age of fifteen; reigned fifteen years. Upon the Danes infesting his dominions, they endeavoured to make Edmund relinquish the Faith; his firmness and patience exasperating his enemies, they bound him to a tree, shooting at him for a mark. Having pierced him with arrows, they completed his martyrdom with the sword.

EDWARD, *King and Martyr*, A.D. 979: *Mar. 18.*—Became Monarch of all England A.D. 975, at thirteen years of age. He followed in all things the counsels of the saintly Dunstan, and bore the persecutions of his stepmother Elfrida with Christian forbearance; nevertheless, she caused him to be treacherously stabbed during a visit he paid her at Corf Castle. His body, though plunged in a deep marsh, was discovered by a miraculous pillar of light, and was buried in Wareham Church, but subsequently translated to Shaftesbury.

TRANSLATION OF EDWARD, *King and Martyr*, A.D. 982: *June 20.*—This King having been murdered by his stepmother at Corf Castle, was first buried without funeral rites, but three years subsequently with great pomp translated to Shaftesbury. His body being found fresh and entire, it was re-translated to Glastenbury A.D. 1001.

FABIAN, *Bishop and Martyr*, A.D. 250: *January 20.*—Succeeded S. Anterus in the Pontificate A.D. 236. In an assembly of clergy and people held for the purpose of electing a chief pastor, a dove was unexpectedly seen resting upon the head of Fabian, a stranger and layman—a miraculous sign which was accepted as an intention of the Divine will for his election. Fabian suffered martyrdom in the persecution of Decius.

S. FAITH, *Virgin Martyr*, *cir.* A.D. 290: *Oct. 6.*—Suffered in the persecution of Dacian; born in Agen, in Aquitain, and witnessed a glorious confession, beyond which little is known of the genuine acts of this saint.

S. GEORGE, *Martyr*, *cir.* A.D. 290: *April 23.*—A native of Capadocia; entered the army of Diocletian, but having declared himself, by tearing down the cruel edicts against the Christians, their friend and champion, he was cast into prison, tortured, and be-

headed. In consequence of his miraculous appearance at the siege of Antioch to the troops of Godfrey de Boullion, S. George was chosen Patron Saint of England. The Greeks style him "The Great Martyr," and observe his day as a Festival of Obligation.

S. KATHERINE, *Virgin Martyr*, A.D. 307: *Nov. 25*.—Of royal descent; an Alexandrian by birth, as famed for her learning as for her sanctity; remained faithful to a Heavenly Spouse amidst every temptation and trial; miraculously delivered from the wheel, but was vouchsafed the glorious crown of the virgin martyr by means of the sword. In the eighth century, her body being discovered, was translated by the monks to their monastery of S. Helena, or Mount Sinai.

S. LAMBERT, *Bishop and Martyr*, A.D. 709: *Sept. 17*.—A native, afterwards Bishop, of Maestrecht. Two brothers had plundered the church at Maestrecht; S. Lambert's retainers, unknown to him, put the spoilers to death. A relative of theirs, Dodoan, officer in Pepin's army, vowed vengeance on the innocent Bishop: assembling a body of armed men, marched to Leodium. Lambert would offer no resistance. His unjust death, endured with patience and charity, has always classed him with martyrs of the second order.

LUCIAN, *Priest and Martyr*, A.D. 312: *Jan. 8*.—A native of Syria; having a large patrimony, he distributed it among the poor. Lucian was a man of great learning: his revised translation of the Old Testament was of much use to S. Jerome. Lucian was imprisoned nine years, and finished his course in Nicomedia either by famine or sword. When chained down upon his back, he consecrated the Sacred Mysteries, and communicated the faithful who were present.

S. LUCY, *Virgin Martyr*, A.D. 304: *Dec. 13*.—Born of honourable parents in the city of Syracuse; her mother, Eutychia, trained her to the Faith. S. Lucy early made a vow of celibacy, and was denounced as a Christian by a Pagan youth, who sought her in marriage. She so won the crown of martyrdom in the reign of Diocletian, being torn with hot pincers.

S. MARGARET, *Virgin Martyr*, *cir. A.D. 278*: *July 20*.—Suffered at Antioch, in Pisidia; she is said to have been instructed in the Faith by a Christian nurse, and to have been prosecuted by her own father, a priest of idols. After many torments she finished her martyrdom by the sword. S. Margaret's body is now kept at Monti Fiascone, in Tuscany: she has always been considered the protector of married women. There is much of symbols and legends, but little of her actual life recorded.

NICOMEDE, *Priest and Martyr*, A.D. 90: *June 1*.—Beaten to death, his Christianity having discovered itself in the work of mercy. Burying the dead, he was seized in the act of performing the Christian rites over the body of the holy martyr Filincula. Nicomede is believed to have been a pupil of S. Peter's.

PERPETUA, *Martyr*, A.D. 203: *March 7*.—She was apprehended for the Faith, with five other catechumens, during the persecution of Severus. The sufferings and visions of these martyrs are related by Perpetua herself; they were all admitted to Holy Baptism whilst in prison. Every effort was made by her own father to lead her to deny her faith, and her young infant held out as an inducement for life. Perpetua persevered to the end, and, having been exposed to a wild cow, finally received the crown in the spoliarium.

PRISCA, *Virgin Martyr*, A.D. 275: *Jan. 18*.—A noble Roman who, at about thirteen years of age, was, on account of her faith, exposed in the Amphitheatre, but the wild beasts refused to approach her. She received the crown of martyrdom by the sword. A church upon the Aventine Hill is dedicated to her, conjointly with her earlier namesake Priscilla, and Aquilla.

VALENTINE, *Priest and Martyr*, *cir.* A.D. 270: *Feb. 14*.—Having befriended the martyrs in the persecution under Claudius II., was himself seized and sent before the Prefect of Rome, who caused him to be beaten with clubs and then beheaded. Valentine endeavoured to abolish a heathen custom held in honour of the goddess Februata Juno, by inducing the boys and girls to substitute, in the billets of love exchanged on that day, names of saints for reverence and imitation.

VINCENT, *Deacon and Martyr*, A.D. 304: *Jan. 22*.—A native of Spain; suffered, in the persecution of Dacian, most fearful and lingering agonies, consummated upon a hot rack with revolving scythes at Valentia. His spiritual father and Bishop, Valerius, was released and exiled. S. Vincent was chosen Patron Saint of Lisbon, Saragossa, and Valentia.

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## Common of Confessors.

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*May be said on the following Holy Days :—*

SS. AMBROSE, AUGUSTINE, EDWARD, GILES, GREGORY,  
HILARY, JEROME, LEONARD, MARTIN.

*All as in the Office for Saints, except*

### *Antiphons.*

1. He who confesseth Me before men, him will I also confess before My Father which is in Heaven.
2. Good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.
3. There was none found like unto him, who preserved the commandments of the Lord blameless.

### *Prayer.*

Hear, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the prayers that we offer unto Thee in the solemnity of the blessed Confessor ....., and grant that the remembrance of his piety may increase our devotion and earnestness ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ÿ. The Lord hath led the just man by straight paths.

R. And shewn him the Kingdom of God.



## MEMORIALS OF CONFESSORS.

S. AMBROSE, *Bp. and Doct.*, A.D. 397: *April 4*.—A native of Gaul. Whilst in his cradle, a swarm of bees playing round the head of the future saint foretold his subsequent eloquence. When Governor of Liguria and Æmilia, yet unbaptized, he was elected to the Bishopric of Milan, and from that time was a powerful opponent to the Arian heresy. S. Ambrose manfully rebuked wickedness in high places, and asserted the supremacy of the ecclesiastical over the civil power. He is believed to have compiled the *Te Deum*, which was first sung at S. Augustine's baptism.

S. AUGUSTINE, *Bishop*, A.D. 430: *August 28*.—Born in Numidia, A.D. 354; converted to Christianity in answer to the prayers of his holy mother, Monica; baptized by S. Ambrose, A.D. 387, afterwards elected Bishop of Hippo. S. Augustine was the writer of many works valued by the Church, especially his "Confessions." He founded the order of Austin Friars.

TRANSLATION OF S. EDWARD, *Confessor King*, 1066: *Oct. 13*.—Son of Ethelred, and Patron Saint of England till superseded by S. George in the thirteenth century, Edward's life was more that of a monk than a king, he and his saintly wife Editha devoting themselves entirely to a life of prayer. He was the founder of Westminster Abbey, which was consecrated Feast of Holy Innocents, 1065. His relics were translated to a more worthy than the original shrine by S. Thomas of Canterbury, A.D. 1163.

S. GILES, *Abbot*, A.D., 725: *Sept. 1*.—By birth an Athenian, the Patron Saint of Cripples, from his refusing to be cured of an accidental lameness, for his more entire self-mortification; lived a hermit's life near the mouth of the river Rhone, afterwards in a forest in the diocese of Nismes. S. Giles was highly favoured by the French King, but would not be persuaded to leave his solitude. He founded a monastery, which became one of the most flourishing of the Benedictine Order.

GREGORY, *Bishop and Doctor*, A.D. 604: *March 12*.—Surnamed the Great. Embraced the monastic life at thirty-five years of age, A.D. 575. When only a deacon he projected the evangelization of Britain, which he was desirous to have undertaken in person, A.D. 596. Six years after his elevation to the Pontificate he despatched S. Augustine, at the head of the mission to which England owes so much. The Church is indebted to Gregory for many writings, as also for the revision of the Divine Liturgy, and the improvement of Church music.

HILARY, *Bishop and Confessor*, A.D. 368: *Jan. 13*.—A native of Poitiers, of illustrious family. He was married before his conversion to the faith. His daughter Apra was yet living when he was called to the Bishopric of Poitiers. From that time Hilary resigned all domestic ties, and devoted his energies to the confutation of the Arian heresy, both by preaching and writing. He is the author of the hymn, "Lucis Langitor Splendide."

S. JEROME, *Priest and Doctor*, A.D. 420: *Sept. 30*.—The most learned of all the Latin Fathers. Born at Strigonium, in Lower Hungary. He spent four years in the wilderness of Chalcis, employed in study and the exercise of charity, where he was beset, but overcame many temptations from the flesh and the devil. Jerome afterwards pursued his studies at Constantinople, Rome, and Alexandria. He translated from the original languages both the Old and New Testaments. He lived to a great age.

S. LEONARD, *Deacon*, A.D. 559: *Nov. 6*.—Born in France, and brought up at the court of Clovis, converted by S. Remigius, embraced the monastic life in the territory of Orleans under S. Mesmini, and finally retired to a hermit life in the forest of Nobiliac, where he subsisted on wild herbs and fruits. Leonard is considered the protector of prisoners.

TRANSLATION OF S. MARTIN, *cir. A.D. 470*: *July 4*.—Bishop of Tours. Fell asleep at the age of eighty. Having foretold his own death, he expired at Cande, A.D. 397, having been occupied to the last for the spiritual good of his diocese. The inhabitants of Poitiers warmly disputed the possession of his body, but the people of Tours carried it off. The whole city went forth in procession to receive it with solemn pomp. A church was built by S. Perpetua over its resting-place.

S. MARTIN, *Bishop*, A.D. 397: *Nov. 11*.—Born in Hungary, 316; his youth was spent in the army. His great charity was rewarded by a vision, in which our Lord appeared to him as recipient of his bounty, which so much impressed Martin that he immediately applied for Holy Baptism. He was elected Bishop of Tours, although he retained the monastic rule of life. He was the first confessor, not being a martyr, honoured with a festival.

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## Common of Holy Men.

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*May be said on the following Holy Days :—*

SS. AUGUSTIN, BEDE, BENEDICT, BRITIUS, CHAD, DAVID, DUNSTAN, ENURCHUS, HUGH, MACHUTUS, NICHOLAS, REMIGIUS, RICHARD, SWITHUN.

*All as in the Office of Saints, except*

### *Antiphons.*

1. Well done, thou good servant, faithful in few things ; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.
2. Blessed is that servant whom, when the Lord comes, He shall find watching.
3. Good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy Lord.

### *Prayer.*

O God, Who comfortest us by the yearly solemnity of blessed ....., Thy servant, mercifully grant that, while we celebrate this festival, we may imitate his actions ; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

- ℣. The Lord hath led the just through the right ways.  
 R. And shewn them the Kingdom of God.

## MEMORIALS OF HOLY MEN

AUGUSTIN, A.D. 604: *May 26*.—First Archbishop of Canterbury, generally styled Apostle of the English, the more ancient British Church having never eradicated Paganism. We are indebted to S. Augustin for the branch of the Apostolic Church which, from the time of King Ethelbert, has been the religion of England. He founded the abbey of SS. Peter and Paul, that is still called by his name; and founded the See of Canterbury, its cathedral, Christ Church, being raised on the former site of a heathen temple.

BEDE, THE VENERABLE, *Priest*, A.D. 735: *May 27*.—One of England's greatest saints and greatest scholars. Born near his future monastery of Jarrow, Northumberland; admitted to the diaconate at nineteen years of age by S. John of Beverley, and priest by the same Bishop of Hexham. At thirty Bede was styled "Mass Priest," that being his chief employment in the convent, and to which no doubt may be attributed the holiness which pervades his numerous and valuable writings, both doctrinal and historic. He expired May 26, Eve of the Ascension.

BENEDICT, *Abbot*, A.D. 543: *March 21*.—A native of Umbria; sent for education to Rome, but at fourteen years of age escaped from what he considered the vice of the public schools, and received the monastic habit at Romanus. He retired to a cavern, now called Holy Grotto, at Subiaco. Benedict was the founder of numerous monasteries, and many families placed their sons under his care to be trained in early sanctity. Amongst these boys were Maurus and Placidus. Monte Casino in Naples remained a monument to S. Benedict for after ages. One of his most stringent rules was "to avoid all singularity of dress."

BRITIUS, OR BRICE, *Bishop*, A.D. 444: *Nov. 13*.—Succeeded S. Martin as Bishop of Tours. In his early life he had exercised that saint's patience, but S. Martin always prophesied the final triumph of holiness. After his election to the Bishopric, Britius was subjected to a false accusation, and consequent exile. After some years' sojourn in Rome, his innocence was proved, and his fame for sanctity established.

CHAD, A.D. 673: *March 2*.—Brother of Cedd, Bishop of London; received his education from S. Aidan, in the monastery of Lindisfarne; was first consecrated to the See of York during the absence of Wilfred in France, but upon the adjudication of that

bishopric to Wilfred, S. Chad retired to the monastery of Lestingay, but was soon called to found the diocese of Lichfield, which see he governed for two years and six months, and died in the great pestilence. The present cathedral is under the invocation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and S. Chad.

DAVID, OR DEWI, *Archbishop, and Patron Saint of Wales*, A.D. 544: *March 1*.—A native of Cardiganshire, son of one of the princes; embraced the religious life in the Isle of Wight; afterwards removed to Glastonbury, where he built a chapel. David was a powerful opponent to the first Welsh heresy, introduced by one Morgan, afterwards called Palagius. Dubritius resigned the archbishopric of Caerleon to David, who removed the see to Menevia, now called S. David, where he died at an advanced age.

DUNSTAN, A.D. 988: *May 19*.—Bishop successively of Worcester, London, and Canterbury. A native of Glastonbury, educated by Irish monks, he became a favourite at the court of Athelstan; but subsequently being ordained priest, he took the monastic habit, and built himself a cell five feet long by two-and-a-half wide, with an adjoining oratory. Dunstan employed a portion of his time in manual labour, as artificer in metal. He was deemed an opponent to the secular clergy in his great wish to bring all under the Benedictine rule.

ENURCHUS, *Bishop*, A.D. 340: *Sept. 7*.—Believed to have been Bishop of Orleans, but nothing in his legendary history is authenticated.

HUGH, *Bishop*, A.D. 1200: *Nov. 17*.—A native of Burgundy; took the monastic habit at Chatreuse, upon Henry II. founding the first Carthusian monastery in England. Hugh was sent over as Prior of Witham, in Somersetshire, which he governed till elected to the see of Lincoln, where he rebuilt the Cathedral, assisting the workmen with his own hands.

MACHUTUS, OR MALO, *Bishop*, A.D. 564: *Nov. 15*.—A native of Wales; troubles at home induced him to fly to Brittany, where, after preaching the Gospel some years, he was chosen Bishop of Aleth, afterwards called in his memory S. Malo.

NICHOLAS, *Bishop of Myra*, A.D. 326: *Dec. 6*.—A native of Patera, in Lycia; distinguished for his charity to the portionless. Having by his fervant prayer calmed a storm at sea, as he voyaged to the Holy Land, he was chosen Patron Saint of Sailors. He is also the special patron of boys, and for this reason, in the dedication of churches and schools, his name is constantly joined with S. Mary, the highest protector of virgins.

REMIGIUS, *Archbishop in A.D. 533: Oct. 1.*—A native of Gaul; elected Archbishop of Rheims when only twenty-two years of age. Clovis, the founder of the French monarchy, was converted and baptized by Remigius: the ampulla used for the Unction on that occasion is still preserved.

RICHARD, *Bishop, A.D. 1253: April 3.*—Born at Droitwich, in Worcestershire; studied at Paris and Boulogne, but was essentially English in all his tastes. He returned to take his Master's degree at Oxford; and although he retired for a time to a Dominican convent at Orleans, where he received Priest's Orders, he accepted a parochial cure in the diocese of Canterbury, subsequently Chancellorship of that see, till in 1245 consecrated Bishop of Chichester. He was renowned for self-sacrifice and an austere life, and for charity to the poor and the penitent.

SWITHUN, *TRANSLATION OF THE RELIC OF, A.D. 971: July 15.*—Bishop of Winchester; died July 2, 862; buried by his own order in the churchyard, where his grave might be trodden over by passengers. About a hundred years later it was removed by order of Bishop Ethelwold, and placed inside the church; and there is an old superstition that the original intention of the saint being thus disregarded, a mighty downfall of rain marked the displeasure of Heaven.

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## Common of Holy Women.

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*May be said on the following Holy Day:—*

ETHELDREDA.

S. ETHELDREDA, OR AUDRY QUEEN, A.D. 670: *Oct. 17.*— Daughter of the King of the East Angles. First married to Tonbert, Prince of the Girvii; secondly, Egfrid, son of Oswi, King of the Northumbrians. Primarily with her husband's consent, subsequently withdrawn, she took the religious habit in the Abbey of Coldingham; but upon Egfrid wishing to regain his wife, she fled to a convent at Ely. The Church has held that her motive was right, and she is commemorated as the founder of Ely Cathedral.

*All as in the Office of Saints, except*

*Antiphons.*

1. The strength of many waters cannot extinguish the warmth of charity.
2. Fair is she amongst the daughters of Jerusalem, and grace is poured out of her lips.
3. She opened her hand to the indigent, and extended her help to the poor, and ate not the bread of idleness.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who, amongst other miracles of Thy power, hast also bestowed the victory on the weaker sex; graciously grant that those who now venerate the memory of the blessed S. Etheldreda may by her example be taught to approach nearer to Thee; through Jesus Christ, Thy Blessed Son, our Lord. Amen.

- ℣. God hath chosen her, and selected her,  
℞. To make His Temple with her.



## MEMORIALS OF CERTAIN HOLY DAYS

*Which have no proper Antiphons and Prayers in this book.*

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INVENTION OF THE CROSS, A.D. 326: *May 3.*—The Festival upon which is commemorated the finding of the Cross which had borne the Saviour of the world. S. Helena, mother of Constantine, at her advanced age of eighty undertook a journey to Jerusalem to discover the exact spot. She caused a heathen temple to be destroyed—some distance below the surface were found three crosses: on being carried to the bedside of a sick person the touch of the ONE Cross testified its sanctity by restoring her to health, and also verified the nails which had caused the precious wounds.

S. JOHN EVANGELIST *ante Portam Latinum*, A.D. 75: *May 6.*—Observed in more Catholic times as a Festival of the second order, all servile work, with the exception of agriculture, being suspended in commemoration of this Apostle being, by order of Domitian, cast into a cauldron of boiling oil, placed at the Latinum Gate, from which he was miraculously delivered: the will and intention of martyrdom being accepted as the filling up of that cup of suffering of which S. John drank deep at the foot of the Cross.

VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: *July 2.*—This Festival was first instituted by Urban VI. for the special intention of venerating the intense humility and charity of the Blessed Virgin—a Festival of consolation to all who are, by bodily weakness, hindered from seeking the Services of the Temple, being an assurance that none are forgotten by the Mother of God, who trod so many rough and stony miles to present to Elizabeth the Hidden God. S. John, by his recognition of the Divinity, was cleansed from original sin, and S. Mary uttered her glorious *Magnificat*.

LAMMAS DAY, OR S. PIETRO *ad Vincula*: *August 1.*—A Festival in commemoration of S. Peter's angelic deliverance from prison chains. As early as A.D. 921 Saxon Churches mention Lammas, or Loaf Mass, being observed as a thanksgiving for the first-fruits of the earth; and that Mass was also celebrated upon this day both by the Greek and Latin Churches with this intention, and for the blessing of the first grapes. There has been a custom in York of offering a lamb as payment to the Cathedral, but this has no connection with the name of this Festival.

**THE TRANSFIGURATION OF CHRIST IN MOUNT TABOR:** *August 6.*—The Sermon of S. Leo upon this mystery shows the Festival to have been observed at Rome in the middle of the fifth century. Calixtus III. made it more universal by a Bull dated 1457, but it was observed by the Greeks much earlier.

**NAME OF JESUS:** *August 7.*—A Festival in honour of the Name at which every knee must bow has been fixed for various degrees of men at different times in 1530. January 14 was observed by the Franciscans; in Spain, on the second Sunday after Epiphany. For many centuries England has observed it upon the 7th of August.

**THE BEHEADING OF S. JOHN BAPTIST:** *August 29.*—This glorious saint, we are told, was a martyr, a doctor, a prophet, and more than a prophet; the greatest of all that had been born of woman, sanctified from his mother's womb, the great forerunner of his Lord. He has, therefore, two days appointed to be observed in his honour—that of his birth, and that of his unflinching firmness unto death, for the cause of virtue rebuking Herod's vicious life, for which S. John was beheaded.

**EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS, A.D. 335:** *Sept. 14.*—The miraculous appearance of the Cross to Constantine, and the discovery of the sacred wood by S. Helena, gave the first occasion to this Festival, which was celebrated by the Greek and Latin Churches as early as the sixth and seventh centuries, and at Jerusalem from A.D. 335. On the spot where the Cross stood Constantine erected a Basilica.

**CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:** *Dec. 8.*—"It is the mystery of the Immaculation or Sanctification of the Blessed Virgin which is the object of the Church on this Festival, rather than her bare Conception." It has been kept with great devotion since the twelfth century, as the first anticipatory note in hymning the honour of the Holy Incarnate. The doctrine of the perfect freedom from sin in the Mother of God has ever been held by the faithful as a pious opinion, though not ruled *de fide* by Œcumenical Council.

**O SAPIENTIA:** *Dec. 16.*—To mark the day upon which the special Antiphons to the *Magnificat* are chanted, of which there are seven, sung severally upon the consecutive days: 16th, O Sapientia; 17th, O Adonai; 18th, O Radix Jesse; 19th, O Clavis David; 20th, O Oriens; 21st, O Rex Gentium; 22nd, O Emmanuel; and in England has been added, 23rd, O Virgo Virginum.

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## Commemoration Prayers.

*A Commemoration is made by reciting the Antiphon, Versicle, Response, and Prayer in the Proper of Festivals for the Feast commemorated; and it is to be made immediately after the Prayer for the day whose Office is actually said, both at Matins and Vespers.*

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### FOR THE CHURCH.

#### *Antiphon.*

Let us in all things grow in Him Who is our Head, Christ; from Whom all the whole body, being compact and knit together by every joint of sub-ministration, increases to the edifying itself in charity.

Ÿ. We are all members of the same body.

R. Let us love and serve and pray for one another.

#### *Prayer.*

O God, Who gatherest Thy flock out of all nations into the saving fold of one Catholic Church, where Thy providence has ordained bishops and pastors immediately to feed Thy sheep and lambs; bless, we beseech Thee, all bishops and their clergy with courage and skill and fatherly care to edify and guard their several charges; bless all the faithful with a filial love and due obedience to their superiors, that the clearness and truth and beauty of holiness daily increasing in Thy Church, through everyone's devout pursuing their duties, all heresies and schisms may at length vanish among Christians, and all Pagans and Jews be happily won into her sacred bosom, the sole ark of salvation; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

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### FOR THE QUEEN.

#### *Antiphon.*

Be subject to all in authority; to the King, as supreme, or unto governors, as sent by him for the punishment of

evil doers and reward of the good: for so is the will of God, that with well-doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.

*V.* Be subject, not only for fear,

*R.* But for conscience sake.

*Prayer.*

O God, by Whom alone kings reign, preserve, we humbly beseech Thee, and govern by Thy grace our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria; endow her Royal person with wisdom and courage, and all qualities befitting her weighty office; bless her with fidelity and diligence in her ministers, and with reverence and obedience in all her subjects, that the sword of justice in her hand may establish us in peace and plenty, to our greater improvement under the discipline of true virtue, and the higher exalting her crown in the kingdom of eternity; through, &c.

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FOR THE BLESSED VIRGIN.

*Antiphon.* 1 Kings ii.

And the king sate on his throne, and a seat was placed for the king's mother, and she sate on his right hand; and the king said to her, Ask on, my mother, for I will not say thee nay.

*V.* Ask thou blessings for us, O blessed among women!

*R.* Of thy womb's blessed fruit, our Lord Jesus.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who hast endowed the ever-Blessed Virgin Mary with all the graces on earth and all glories in Heaven worthy the Mother of Thy Son, the world's Great Redeemer; grant, we beseech Thee, that as we praise and magnify Thy Name for so highly exalting the lowliness of Thine handmaid, we may be encouraged, by the confidence of her intercession, to hope in Thy mercy, both for pardon of our sins and conduct of our lives, and joyful reception into Thy everlasting Kingdom; through, &c.

## FOR THE SAINTS.

*Antiphon.*

They seem, in the eyes of the foolish, dead to themselves and all the world; but they rest with God in immortal peace, and exercise towards us a far greater charity.

Ÿ. Hear Thou, O Lord, their prayers for us in Heaven,  
R. Who on earth have taught us to pray.

*Prayer.*

O Eternal Father, Whose Holy Spirit, by Thy blessed Apostles, has planted in the world the saving doctrine of Thy Son, and watered it with so much sweat and blood of them and their followers that it has overspread the earth, and born much fruit to Heaven; most thankfully we praise Thee for the gracious lives and deaths of all Thy Saints here, and the glorious crowns with which they are rewarded in Thy Kingdom, where, we humbly beseech Thee, accept their intercessions for us sinners, applying so home to our hearts their memory and merits that we, too, by Thy grace, may in some measure live and die like them, and be crowned at length with the same blissful rewards; through, &c.

## OF THE HOLY CROSS.

*Antiphon.*

From our enemies deliver us, O Lord, by the sign of the Cross.

Ÿ. Let all the earth adore Thee, and sing psalms to Thee.  
R. Let it sing psalms to Thy Name, O Lord!

*Prayer.*

O Lord, Who, upon the wood of the sacred Cross, didst deign to redeem us; keep us, we beseech Thee, in perpetual peace, and grant that this symbol of suffering may ever remind us that by patience and suffering only can we follow in Thy footsteps and attain unto Thy Kingdom; Who, with, &c.

## FOR PEACE.

*Antiphon.*

Give peace in our days, O Lord, for there is none that fighteth for us save Thou, our God.

Y. Let there be peace in Thy strength.

R. And abundance within Thy towers.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who, in Thy inspired Word, hath taught us that one of the chief blisses of the glorious abode Thou hast prepared for Thy saints will be the enjoyment of perfect rest and peace; grant that even in this world, surrounded as we are by temptations, and harassed by many troubles and dangers, we may yet ever preserve that blessed inward peace which passeth all understanding; through, &c.

## FOR THE UNITY OF CHRISTENDOM.

*Antiphon.*

Our Master, Christ, hath other sheep which are not of this fold, but His promise is that a time shall come when there shall be one fold and One Shepherd.

Y. Blessed are the peacemakers;

R. For they shall see God.

*Prayer.*

O God, Who art Three and yet One, we earnestly pray Thee for the restoration of visible unity of worship and communion in Thy torn and divided Church, and that all who confess Thy Holy Name, and are called Christians, may be reunited, as at the beginning, "in the Apostles' doctrine, and the fellowship, and in the breaking of the Bread, and in the prayers." Remove, we beseech Thee, from us and from all others whatever may hinder or delay this blessed re-union—all suspicions, prejudices, hard thoughts and judgments—and endue us with such ardent

love toward Thee, and toward each other, that we may be one in heart, even as Thou, Lord, art one with the Father; to Whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, be all praise and glory and thanksgiving for ever. Amen.

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## Occasional Prayers,

*Which may be said as circumstances require, at Matins and Vespers, after the Prayer for the day and Commemorations.*

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### FOR A MEMBER OF THE FAMILY SICK.

#### *Antiphon.*

The wheat must lose its verdure, and wither away, to be ripe for the sickle, and put off its chaff, and be stored up in the granary.

Ÿ. Such is the progress of human nature.

R. Our bodies must dissolve, to raise us into spirits.

#### *Prayer.*

O Sovereign Lord of life and death, by the order of Whose providence one of Thy servants lies now dangerously sick; hear, we beseech Thee, our humble supplications for *him*, that if it seem good to Thee this sickness may only be for Thy greater glory; or if there be no reprieve, and it must be to death, that *he* may be strengthened by Thy grace to bear the approaches to *his* dissolution, and yield up *his* soul when Thou pleasest, as becomes a hopeful Christian; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.



## FOR A MEMBER OF THE FAMILY RECOVERED.

*Antiphon.*

The grave gaped wide to swallow up Thy servant from among us, but Thou hast mercifully relieved *him* from its greedy jaws, to glorify Thee awhile longer with us.

Ÿ. *His* soul is snatched away from the snare of the hunter.

R. The snare is broken, and *he* is delivered.

*Prayer.*

O God, Whose mighty hand dispenses sickness and health, leads down to the grave and brings back again; accept, we beseech Thee, our humble thanksgiving for restoring Thy servant N. N. to health and strength: may we feel how uncertain our sojourn is in this world, and know that our life is only at Thy will, O Lord! May the thoughts in sickness govern us in health, and provoke us to pursue the one necessary work that leads to eternal life; through, &c.

## FOR A MEMBER OF THE FAMILY DECEASED.

*Antiphon.*

Grieve not for the dead, they are past all dangerous storms; rather emulate their rest, having finished well their course.

Ÿ. We too shall land at the same noble port,

R. And meet there endless joys, if we are so wise as to choose them.

*Prayer.*

O God, by Whose providence Thy servant N. N., through the travail of dying, is at length happily born out of the dangerous womb of this world; allay, we humbly beseech Thee, all troublesome regrets of nature for the death of our neighbour, and work in us a friendlier conceit of our own, that our prayers may prevail with Thy mercy to hasten the cleansing of *his* soul by the purging fire, to render it worthy the beatifying sight of Thee, and so purify our own from all drossy affections, that when the night of death comes, in which none can work, we may enter immediately into Thy eternal rest; through, &c.

## P E R S E C U T I O N .

*Antiphon.*

Blessed are ye when men shall revile and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely for My sake ; rejoice and exult, for great is your reward in Heaven, says our Lord.

Y. Thus the holy Prophets earned their crowns.

R. Thus the blessed Apostles climbed their thrones.

*Prayer.*

O provident Lord, Who permitteth the powers of darkness in this world to persecute the children of light, that their sufferings may exercise among themselves and attest to others the disvalue of all temporal things ; sustain us, we humbly beseech Thee, that we be not shaken in the Faith once for all delivered to the saints by this present persecution, and grant that no temptation turn us aside from our duty, or betray Thy truth and the blessed promise of inheriting a title to Thy Kingdom, which Thou hast with Thine own mouth promised to them that suffer for Thy sake ; through, &c.

## W A R .

*Antiphon.*

Fear not: our Lord that said, " All that take the sword (unduly) shall perish with the sword," said also, on occasion, " He that hath not a sword, let him sell his coat and buy one."

Y. A due use sanctifies even judgments into mercies,

R. And makes war itself our way to endless peace.

*Prayer.*

O God, by Whose ordinance the people's swords are subject to the Prince, so that it is their duty to heartily draw them at his legal call ; vouchsafe, we humbly beseech Thee, our Sovereign may conduct it to Thy glory and honour, and the public advantage ; vouchsafe us the grace

that we may adhere to our duty by rendering due service, by freely hazarding our lives and fortunes in obedience to his orders as Thy undoubted vicegerent, and resignedly expecting the issue from Thee, the world's just Governor, Who will surely render it the best to those that show indeed they love Thee by doing what Thou commandest; through, &c.

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### M O R T A L I T Y.

#### *Antiphon.*

Why are we still preserved in perfect health, amidst so many sad examples of mortality? Is it not that we may daily learn to die better prepared, and by such experience of the uncertainty of this life make it easier for us, by a just undervalue of it, to set our hearts on our future immortality?

Ÿ. They fall on all sides of us into their sick beds or their graves,

R. And none of us know whose turn will be next.

#### *Prayer.*

O gracious God, Who, to the slight warnings of particular diseases, addest sometimes the strong alarms of universal contagions to awake us out of the lethargy wherein this life's pleasures enchain us, and rouse us into an earnest preparing for death and eternity; mercifully grant that we be not terrified at the grim look of mortality, but wisely meet the design of Thy goodness by feeling our minds checked in this sensual career, and endeavour to calm them into a fit temper to realize better the immortal state to which Thou summonest us, that when our time too is come, we may pass cheerfully through it to Thee, our final Good; through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who, with, &c.

*For the Primate.*—O God, the Pastor and Governor of all the faithful, mercifully look upon Thy servant N., whom Thou hast been pleased to appoint the Pastor of Thy Church in this land; grant, we beseech Thee, that both by word and example he may edify those over whom he is set, and, together with the flock committed to his care, may attain everlasting life; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

*For Bishops.*—Almighty and Everlasting God, Who alone workest great miracles, send down upon our bishops the healthful spirit of Thy grace; and that they may truly please Thee, pour upon them the continual dew of Thy blessing; through, &c.

*For Priests.*—Remember, O Lord, according to the multitude of Thy mercies and compassions, all the priests who compass Thy holy Altar; preserve them for the glory of Thy Name, for they have proclaimed Thy praise; keep unstained their hands, for they have blessed; keep inwardly their hearts, sealed with the marks of Thy priesthood; bless their labours, the souls they love, the souls they seek, the souls they pray for; through, &c.

*For the Flock.*—O Lord Jesus Christ, look down from Heaven, we beseech Thee, upon the old and young of Thy flock; bless them in their bodies and bless them in their souls, and grant that those who have received Thy sign, O Christ, upon their foreheads, may at the day of judgment be acknowledged by Thee as Thy true children; through, &c.

*For our own Church.*—O merciful God, bless this particular Church in which we live; make it, and all the members of it, sound in faith and holy in life, that they may serve Thee and Thou bless them; through, &c.

*For our Parents.*—Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of Whom the whole family in Heaven and earth is named, I give Thee humble thanks that Thou didst of Thy providence cause me to be born of Christian parents; recompense them out of the riches of Thy bounty

for the care bestowed upon me, give them blissful rest with Thy faithful people, and the perfect fruition of Thy glorious Godhead in the life everlasting ; through, &c.

*For our Family.*—Defend, we beseech Thee, O Lord, this Thy family from all adversity, and mercifully protect us, now prostrate before Thee with our whole hearts, from all the snares of our enemies ; through, &c.

*For our Relations.*—Have mercy, O Lord, upon those whom Thou hast associated with us in the bonds of kindred and natural affection, and grant that they may, along with me, be so perfectly conformed to Thy holy will, that, being cleansed from all earthly desires, we may be found worthy, by the inspiration of Thy love, to be partakers together of the blessedness of Thy heavenly Kingdom ; through, &c.

*For our Friends.*—O God, Who, by the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, hast poured into the hearts of Thy faithful the gifts of charity ; grant to Thy servants N. N., for whom we implore Thy mercy, health both of body and soul, that they may love Thee with all their strength, and cheerfully perform those things which are pleasing unto Thee ; through, &c.

*For Unity in a Congregation.*—O God, Who art the giver of peace and lover of charity, grant to Thy servants, this congregation, true concord and union with Thy holy will, that we may be delivered from all temptations which assault us ; through, &c.

*For Deliverance from Persecution.*—Hear the prayers of Thy Church, O Lord, we beseech Thee, and turn away Thine anger from us, that all adversities and errors being done away, we may freely and securely serve Thee ; through, &c.

*In any Tribulation.*—O Almighty God, despise not Thy people who cry unto Thee in their affliction, but for the glory of Thy Name turn away Thine anger, and help us in our tribulations ; through, &c.

*In Time of Famine or Pestilence.*—Grant, we beseech Thee, O Lord, an answer to earnest supplications, and, Thy wrath being appeased, turn away from us this famine [or pestilence], that the hearts of men may know that these scourges proceed from Thy anger, and cease by Thy mercy; through, &c.

*In Times of Calamity.*—O Lord Jesus Christ, Holy, Immortal God! have mercy upon us and upon all men; purify us by Thy holy Blood, forgive us by Thy holy Blood, save us by Thy holy Blood, now and for ever. Amen.

*For Heretics and Schismatics.*—O Almighty and everlasting God, Who hast compassion on all, and wouldest not that any should perish; favourably look down upon all those who are seduced by the deceit of Satan, that, all heretical piety being removed, the hearts of such as err may repent, and return to the unity of Thy truth; through, &c.

*For Jews.*—O Almighty and Everlasting God, Who repellst not from Thy mercy even the perfidious Jews; hear the prayer which we offer for the blindness of that people, that the Light of Thy truth, Christ our Lord, being known to them, they may be delivered from their darkness; through, &c.

*For Pagans.*—O Almighty and Everlasting God, Who desireth not the death but the life of sinners; mercifully accept our prayers, and, delivering pagans from the worship of idols, unite them to Thy Church, to the praise and honour of Thy glorious Name; through, &c.

*Before a Crucifix.*—O my Lord Jesus! by that bitterness Thou sufferedst for me on the Cross, chiefly when Thy Blessed Soul was separated from Thy Body, have mercy on my soul now and at its departure from this world, that it may be admitted to life everlasting. Amen.

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## Itinerary.

BEING PRAYERS FOR THE USE OF PERSONS TRAVELLING

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*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Antiphon.* In the way of peace.

*Benedictus.*

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, &c., *see page 19.*

*Antiphon.* In the way of peace and prosperity may the Lord, the Almighty and Merciful, direct our steps; and may the angel Raphael accompany us on the way, that we may return to our homes in peace, safety, and joy.

*Our Father, &c.*

✠. O God, save Thy servants,

R. Who put their trust in Thee.

✠. Send us help, O Lord, from Thy holy place.

R. And defend us out of Sion.

✠. Be unto us, O Lord, a tower of strength.

R. And let not the enemy prevail against us.

✠. Blessed be the Lord from day to day.

R. May the God of our salvation make our way prosperous before us.

✠. Shew us Thy way, O Lord.

R. And teach us Thy paths.

✠. O that our ways were directed,

R. To keep Thy righteous laws.

✠. The crooked ways shall be made straight;

R. And the rough places smooth.

✠. God hath given His angels charge concerning thee,

R. To keep thee in all thy ways.

✠. Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto Thee.



*Prayer.*

O God, Who madest the sons of Israel to walk with dry feet through the midst of the sea, and Who didst open to the three Magi, by the guiding of a star, the way that led to Thee; grant to us, we beseech Thee, a prosperous journey and a time of tranquillity, that, attended by Thy holy angel, we may happily arrive at that place whither we are journeying, and finally at the haven of eternal salvation.

O God, Who broughtest Abraham Thy son out of the land of the Chaldees, and didst preserve him unhurt through all his wanderings, vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, to guard us, Thy servants; be unto us, O Lord, our support in our setting out, our solace on the way, our shadow in the heat, our shelter in the rain and cold, the chariot of our weariness, the fortress of our adversity, our staff in the ways of slipperiness, and our harbour in shipwreck, that under Thy guidance we may reach in prosperity the object of our journey, and at length return to our homes in safety.

Vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, that Thy people may set forward on the way of salvation, and by following the exhortations of the blessed forerunner John, may come safe to the presence of Him Whom he preached, Jesus Christ Thy Son our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

O omnipotent God, Whom both the winds and the sea obey, Who holdest the tempest in the hollow of Thy hand, and dost rule the raging of the waves; defend us, we beseech Thee, from all the perils and dangers of the deep, granting us a safe and prosperous voyage, and a speedy arrival at the haven where we would be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ÿ. Let us proceed in peace.

R. In the Name of the Lord. Amen.

*If no part of the journey is to be made by sea, then shall the prayer, O omnipotent God, &c., be omitted.*

## A Short Office,

FOR USE

BEFORE RECEIVING THE HOLY SACRAMENT.

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*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

✠. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

R. Have mercy upon us.

*Antiphon.* I will take the chalice of salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord.

*Psalm.*

Great are the works of Thy power, O Lord, and wonderful the ways of Thy goodness;

Who hast given Thy only-begotten Son to the world, not once only, but to be with us always, even unto the end;

Not once only to die for us on the shameful Cross, but day by day to comfort us upon the holy Altar;

With awe and unspeakable reverence may I approach that Throne, and bow my soul before the Presence,

Knowing that a greater than kings is there, yea, the very King of Kings, and the Master of all things living.

May my soul be free from all sin when thus I presume to draw nigh Thee.

May my heart be purged from all guile, and my lips from the words of the scoffer.

Pure and undefiled let me come unto Thee, that I may offer a temple meet for Thy reception, a spirit fit for communion with Thee.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* I will take the chalice of salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord.

*Hymn.*

**B**RIGHT upon the vested Altar  
 Burns the taper's steady light ;  
 For the Day-star hath arisen  
 Through the shadows of the night.

Light of Light, from Heaven descending  
 To thy earthly Altar-throne !  
 Lo, we call Thee, we receive Thee !  
 Master, come unto Thine own.

*Prayer.*

O Lord Jesu Christ, Son of the living God, Who in accordance with the will of the Father, the Holy Ghost co-operating, hast by Thy death given life unto the world, deliver me by this Thy most holy Body and Blood from all my iniquities and from all evils ; make me always to cleave to Thy commandments, and never suffer me to be separated from Thee ; Who, with the same God the Father, and with the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. Amen.

*V.* O taste, and see how gracious the Lord is !

*R.* I will go in the strength of the Lord God : I will make mention of His Name, even of His only.

*Our Father, &c.*

*V.* And lead us not into temptation.

*R.* But deliver us from evil. Amen.

## A Short Office,

FOR USE

AFTER HAVING RECEIVED THE HOLY SACRAMENT.

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*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

℣. He hath given Bread from Heaven to us.

℞. And men have eaten angels' food.

*Antiphon.* His Flesh is meat indeed, and His Blood is drink indeed.

*Psalm.*

Great is the privilege which I have enjoyed, and terrible will be my punishment if I misuse it.

That heavenly Feast, which, if partaken of with a faithful and true heart, is for the salvation of my soul, may but procure me the deeper condemnation.

If I discern not the Lord's Body, if my faith is weak and my love cold, I but eat and drink my own condemnation.

Awful thought, that this miraculous means of grace which Thou hast provided may by my fault be perverted, and tend but to destruction.

Pardon, therefore, O Lord, my shortcomings at the time of the Sacrifice, and the imperfect preparation with which I dared to approach it.

And thou, O my soul, praise thy God for all His benefits towards thee.

Praise Him for the means of grace; praise Him for the hope of salvation.

Praise Him for His unspeakable Gift; praise Him for the continual Presence.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

*Antiphon.* His Flesh is meat indeed, and His Blood is drink indeed.

*Nunc Dimittis.*

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, &c.

*Prayer.*

We give thanks unto Thee, O Lord Jesu, Creator and Redeemer of mankind, Who, to manifest Thy love for all the world, hast prepared a great Feast, in which Thou dost offer not the typical Lamb, but Thy own most holy Body and Blood, making joyful all faithful people with the sacred Food, and cheering them with the saving Chalice, in which are all the delights of Paradise.

O God, Who in this wonderful Sacrament hast left us a memorial of Thy Passion, grant us, we beseech Thee, so to venerate the sacred mysteries of Thy Body and Blood, that we may ever feel within ourselves the fruit of Thy Redemption; Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, world without end. Amen.

℣. The eyes of all wait upon Thee, O Lord.!

℞. And Thou givest them their meat in due season.

*Our Father, &c.*

℣. And lead us not into temptation.

℞. But deliver us from evil. Amen.

## Prayer at Night for a Family.

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*In the Name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Our Father, &c. Hail! Mary, &c. I believe, &c.*

O Eternal, Infinite, and Almighty God, Whose glory the Heaven of heavens cannot contain, look down on Thy unworthy servants, prostrate at the feet of Thy mercy, and humbly confessing to Thee, in the sight of all Thy holy angels and blessed saints, the sinfulness and vanity of our lives, but especially the transgressions of this day, by which we have so grievously wounded our own souls.

We confess to Almighty God, before all the holy angels and blessed saints, and all the whole company of Heaven, that we have sinned grievously in thought, word, and deed; through our fault, through our own fault, through our exceeding great fault.

*Here examine diligently what sins you may have fallen into this day, by thought, word, deed, or omission, and, humbly confessing them, proceed thus:—*

Therefore I beseech the Blessed Virgin Mary, the holy angels, and all the blessed saints, to pray to God for me.

The great and glorious Lord of Heaven and Earth have mercy on us; forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

Lord, have mercy on us.

*Christ, have mercy on us.*

Lord, have mercy on us.

*Jesus, receive our prayers.*

Lord Jesu, grant our petitions.

- O God the Father of Heaven, Creator of the world,  
 O God the Son, Redeemer of mankind,  
 O God the Holy Ghost, Perfecter of the elect,  
 O Sacred Trinity, Three Persons and One God,  
 O God, the Eternal Fulness of all perfection,  
 O God, the ever-flowing Source of all being,  
 O God, the bounteous Author of all good,  
 O God, Who hast chosen us in Thy Son, before the  
 constitution of the world,  
 O God, Who hast created us of nothing to Thine  
 own similitude,  
 O God, Who preservest us every moment, that we  
 return not again to nothing,  
 O God, Who hast made all the world for the use of  
 us, and us for the enjoyment of Thyself,  
 O God, Who hast redeemed us by the death of Thy  
 Son, and sanctified us by the grace of Thy Holy  
 Spirit,  
 O God, Who hast brought us to the knowledge of  
 Thy Truth, and blest us with so plentiful means  
 of working our salvation,  
 O God, Who hast prepared for us a glorious inheri-  
 tance, if we love Thee and keep Thy com-  
 mandments,  
 O God, Who art Thyself that glorious inheritance,  
 O God, the only end of all our labours,  
 O God, the only rest of our wearied souls,  
 O God, the only joy of our time and eternity,  
 O God, our God, and all things,

*Have mercy on us.*

Have mercy, O Lord, and spare us.  
*Have mercy, O Lord, and hear us.*

- From all evil,  
 From all sin,  
 From all occasions of offending Thy Divine Majesty,  
 From the particular temptations to which we are  
 most exposed,  
 From sudden and unprovided death,  
 From everlasting death,

*Deliver us, O Lord.*



By Thy almighty Power,  
 By Thy unsearchable Wisdom,  
 By Thy adorable Goodness,  
 By all Thy glorious Attributes,  
 By all Thy gracious Mercies,  
 By the Mystery of Thy Holy Incarnation and humble  
 Nativity,  
 By the sanctity of Thy Heavenly Doctrine and mira-  
 culous Life,  
 By the merits of Thy bitter Passion, and all-reviving  
 Death,  
 By the joys of Thy victorious Resurrection and  
 triumphant Ascension,  
 By the glory of Thy Eternal Kingdom and incom-  
 prehensible Majesty,  
 In the hour of death, and in the Day of Judgment,  
 Deliver us, O Lord.

*Deliver us, O Lord.*

*We sinners beseech Thee hear us, O Lord.*

That it would please Thee to give us a true and  
 hearty sorrow for all our offences,  
 That it would please Thee to work in us a firm and  
 sincere resolution of amending our lives,  
 That it would please Thee to pardon our sins past,  
 and prevent us by Thy grace for the time to come,  
 That it would please Thee to have pity on our nature,  
 and in all our necessities, temptations, and  
 dangers to strengthen and relieve us,  
 That seeing every day our imperfections, we may  
 quicken our diligence and humble ourselves, and  
 learn to depend upon Thee,  
 That acknowledging all we have is derived from Thy  
 free bounty, we may praise and glorify Thee,  
 and above all Thy benefits love Thee our  
 Benefactor,  
 That knowing all we hope proceeds from the same  
 free bounty, we may faithfully endeavour to  
 serve and please Thee, and secure to ourselves  
 Thy everlasting rewards,

*We beseech Thee, bear us.*

That considering Thy providence does all things for the best, we may thankfully accept whatever part Thou assignest us, and not murmur at our part, but strive to act it well,

That we may diligently observe the rules of our several places, and contentedly stoop to the meanest work of our condition, sweetening all our labours with this glad hope, if we be innocent here we shall be happy hereafter,

That we may live in peace and charity with all the world, especially among ourselves, so particularly engaged by our union with one family, patiently forbearing and freely forgiving, and readily assisting one another,

That often in the midst of our business we may steal up our thoughts to Heaven, to renew and increase our desire for that glorious Eternity,

That whether we sleep or wake we may still be safe in Thee, and whether we live or die be always Thine,

*We beseech Thee, bear us.*

Son of God,

*We beseech Thee to bear us.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
*Spare us, O Lord.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
*Hear us, O Lord.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
*Have mercy on us.*

*V.* Lord, have mercy on us.

*R.* Christ, have mercy on us.

*V.* Lord, have mercy on us.

*Our Father, &c.*

*V.* And lead us not into temptation.

*R.* But deliver us from evil. Amen.

- Ÿ. Bless, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy Spouse the Church.
- R. Bless her with the graces of unity, and truth, and holiness.
- Ÿ. Bless Thy servant, our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria.
- R. Bless her with the spirit of wisdom, and courage, and piety.
- Ÿ. Bless all the nations subject to her government.
- R. Bless them with the gifts of peace, and truth, and unfeigned charity.
- Ÿ. Bless our kindred and acquaintance, our friends and benefactors.
- R. Bless our enemies and slanderers, and all that despitefully use us.
- Ÿ. Have mercy, O Lord, on the nations who never knew Thee.
- R. And those who knew Thee once, but now are fallen from the truth.
- Ÿ. Have mercy on the poor, and helpless, and afflicted.
- R. And comfort them with hope, and patience, and relief.
- Ÿ. Have mercy on the living, and govern them by grace.
- R. Have mercy on the dead, and bring them to Thy glory.
- Ÿ. Have mercy on us, Thy servants, here assembled in Thy presence.
- R. And Thou, Who art our refuge, be our defence.
- Ÿ. Into Thy hands, O Lord, we commend our spirits.
- R. Into Thy hands, O Lord, we commend our spirits.
- Ÿ. Thou hast redeemed us, O Lord, Thou God of Truth!
- R. Into Thy hands, O Lord, we commend our spirits.
- Ÿ. Preserve us, O Lord, as the apple of Thine eye.
- R. Under the shadow of Thy wings protect us.

- V. Save us, O Lord, waking ; defend us, sleeping.  
 R. That we may watch with Christ, and rest in peace.  
 V. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin.  
 R. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us.  
 V. Lord, let 'Thy mercy be on us.  
 R. As our hope is in Thee.  
 V. O Lord, hear our prayers.  
 R. And let our cry come unto Thee.

*Let us pray.*

O Almighty and merciful Lord, we praise and magnify Thy holy Name for Thy great and innumerable benefits, proceeding purely from Thy bounty, and intended wholly for our good, particularly for preserving us this day in the midst of so many dangers incident to our condition, and delivering us from so many calamities as are due to our sins.

Thou art our Creator, O our God ! Thou art the end of our being, and Supreme perfection of our nature ; under the shadow of Thy wings is perpetual repose, and from the light of Thy countenance flows eternal joy and felicity : to Thee be glory and honour, to Thee adoration and obedience, from all Thy creatures for ever. Amen.

And since Thou hast ordained the day to labour and the night to take our rest, as we praise Thee for the blessings of this day past, so we implore Thy protection this night to come. Let the eyes of Thy providence watch over us, and Thy holy angels pitch their tents about us, that, being safely delivered from all dangers, and comfortably refreshed with sleep, we may the better perform the employments of our calling and state of life, and faithfully persevere in the discharge of the duties of Thy service, and so daily advance to new victories over our passions, and to a more perfect observance of Thy commandments, till, having passed our days in Thy fear, we may end them in Thy favour, and rejoice with Thee for ever in Thy heavenly Kingdom ;

through Jesus Christ our Lord and only Saviour, Who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, One God, world without end. Amen.

Ÿ. O Lord, hear our prayers.

R. And let our cry come unto Thee.

Ÿ. Bless we our Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Ÿ. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

R. Amen.

O Blessed Virgin, Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
*Pray for us.*

O glorious Angels, whom our Lord sends in mission for the good of His elect,  
*Pray for us.*

O holy Saints, who, perfectly secure of your own happiness, are charitably solicitous of ours,  
*Pray for us.*

O all ye blessed inhabitants of Heaven, who continually behold the face of God, and readily dispense His benefits to us,  
*Pray for us.*

God the Father sustain and protect us.

Jesus Christ illuminate and govern us.

The Holy Spirit sanctify and perfect us to life everlasting.

Amen.

*Pause awhile, then rise.*

## OMISSION.

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*To be said on Monday in Vespers, immediately following the Lesson, page 22.*

### *Antiphon.*

Learn of Me, says our Lord, for I am meek and lowly in heart ; and you shall find rest to your souls.

### *Nunc Dimittis.*

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy Word.

For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

Which Thou has prepared before the face of all people ;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of Thy people Israel.

*Glory be, &c.*

*As it was, &c.*

### *Antiphon.*

Learn of Me, says our Lord, for I am meek and lowly in heart ; and you shall find rest to your souls.

*V.* Meekness indeed is the heaven of this life ;

*R.* But the Heaven of heavens is above with Thee.

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